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The families of the chiefs of these tribes of Central Asia are, however, of royal quality, after a certain primitive fashion,—the fashion of the Scriptures and the poetry of early ages. Sultanas, old and young, mothers and daughters, milk the cows, sheep, and goats, night and morning. This is especially an office of dignity, and once, perhaps, confined to the younger ladies; for we believe that, in the Arian tongues, the word daughter, — so unmeaning in itself to us,—has no other signification but that of the milker of the flocks. In these,—in sheep, cows, goats, camels, and horses,—consists the wealth of a sultan of the plains. He reckons them by tens and hundreds of thousands: marriage-portions are all made up of them; and the young lady who can take to her lord the greatest number of quadrupeds of this sort, is an heiress whose charms are the subject of envy and comment in all the yorts within the limits of wide-spread Tartary. Of all these animals, the horse seems to be the most esteemed, whether for use or for eating. The Kirghis warrior loathes the idea of eating beef; but the prospect of a juicy steak from a wild horse makes his mouth water. Vegetables he has none, grows none, cares for none,—“the people of Central Asia disdain such trifles.”

Compared with extent of locality, the inhabitants are few; and there is an air about the stern, dreary desert, the quiet valleys, and the silent pastures, as if they had never been enlivened by multitudes of men, and by the passions of multitudes. But beneath this desert and these pastures sleeps the mortality

of teeming nations. The inhabitants of these nations rendered all about them productive. Their engineering skill is manifested by the numerous canals which still exist; and if ever this now mournfully grand country shall be fully occupied and peopled by Russia, she will only be the restorer of a civilization which once existed, and not the founder of one. The barrows on the boundless plains are numberless; their circling stones look, even on paper, like Stonehenge magnified; they cover generations which once moved within and without the extensive earthworks which are all that remain of ancient cities and strongholds, but which “afford convincing proof that a great people were once located here.” Great and numerous must the people have been who once covered the now great desert. Over a city of the dead, four miles in length by one in breadth, Mr. Atkinson rode on one occasion,—the ground beneath him being the graves of probably the earliest inhabitants of a region which was the cradle of the human race. Life is still a struggle there, in which Death often gets the better of it, before due season.—

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There is, however, a grandeur of life as well as of death on these wide plains. Bards, attached to the tribes, render the evenings short by soothing their hearers with songs in praise of a pastoral career, or lashing them into wild fury by chanting the deeds of the great chieftains in war. Such chieftains sit at the entrances to their tents, and look at their tens of thousands of animals feeding on the mountain slopes. These mountains embrace scenery such as poet or painter never dreamed of. Their sides, or the valleys at their feet, are rich with veins of lapis-lazuli, green and orange nephrite, gold, silver, and rubies,—rich, in short, in metals and minerals which the coming lord will know how to turn to use. Their summits, crowned with snow, sparkle in the sun which maintains a summer at their base. The especial majesty of the earth seems established here. The heavens smile or frown more emphatically than elsewhere. The land, even where it is barren, abounds in beauties, at the aspect of which the heart throbs more swiftly: earthquakes drink up the mountain lakes; and over barriers of green and purple jasper the waters leap into the deep beds in the

valleys, or rush roaringly on through gulfs and caverns in the mountains, where man, fearing to trace their course, fixes the abiding-place of Shaitan and his angels.

Such are some of the external features of the country. Let us introduce our readers to an “interior.” Mr. Atkinson had been nearly lost in traversing a stony desert; but, way-worn and famished, he reached a Kirghis encampment:

“We caused a great commotion; but the usual explanation was quickly followed by the customary welcome. In a few minutes I found myself standing close to several sleeping children, and near two young maidens, who were just unrolling themselves out of their voilocks. It is unpleasant to enter a Kirghis abode that has been closed several hours. The strong scent of the koumis bag, mingled with various other odours from biped and quadruped, makes the intruder start back with horror, as plague and other deadly maladies are instantly suggested. One of my Cossacks threw open the top of the yort, and the fire carried off the noxious effluvia, otherwise it would have been impossible to endure them. The great cauldron was quickly placed on its iron tripod, when a goodly portion of brick tea, clotted cream, and the other ingredients were thrown into it. Looking at the size of the vessel, I thought there was sufficient to feast a multitude. The people now crowded round to gaze at the stranger who had so uncromoniously entered their abodes. A Cossack was standing near the fire preparing my little somerar, while the inmates watched him with intense interest. During these operations I had time to examine the dwelling, with my host and his family, and a strong flickering light from the fire enabled me to scan each individual. The chief's name was Kairan: he was a man about fifty years of age, had a dark swarthy or dirty complexion, with broad and heavy features, a wide mouth, small and deeply-set black eyes, a well-formed nose, and a large forehead. His head was shaved, and he wore a closely-fitting blue kanfa cap, embroidered with silver and coloured silks. His neck was as thick and as sturdy as one of his bulls; he was broad-shouldered and strongly built: taking him altogether, he was a powerful man. His dress was a Kokhan cotton kalat striped with yellow, red, and green, reaching down to his feet, and was tied round his waist with a red and green shawl. His two wives had on sheepskin coats, in which they slept, and high pointed cotton caps. I cannot say that their night gear was particularly clean or interesting, still it may have a charm for a Kirghis. The heads of four children were peeping from their fur coverings, and one, a girl about six years old, crept out, showing that they were not troubled with night-gowns. Near to the children there was a pen in which three young kids slept, and on the opposite side of the yort four young lambs had a similar berth. These were the inmates of a dwelling 25 feet in diameter: besides which, the space was still further curtailed by a pile of boxes, carpets, and other chattels. Having seated myself on a carpet spread in front of the boxes, the Cossacks placed my tea apparatus before me, and possessing four glasses, I was enabled to serve my host and his wives with the beverage. Several of the chief's followers were sitting in the yort, intently watching my proceedings. When I handed tea to the women they evidently thought me a barbarian, as no man with any breeding among their tribes would serve a female until every man and boy had been satisfied. Before Kairan went to sleep he informed me that many tribes were on their march towards the mountains, and that great numbers were encamped to the westward. After receiving this news, I turned down without ceremony on the place where I had been sitting; a Cossack spread a carpet over me, and then rolled himself up in another. A Kirghis put out the fire, and let down the top of the yort, shutting us up in utter darkness; but a long ride over these dreary plains is an excellent promoter of sleep. My Cossack was soon snoring, and in a few minutes I was lost to either sound or scent.”

These were winter quarters; but the summer

pastures, whither five-and-thirty thousand animals are sometimes moving together, yield pleasanter scenes. The shepherds are soldiers also, and often robbers to boot; and are so skilled in the use of lance and battle-axe that Mr. Atkinson is induced to say, "If these men are ever trained under good officers, they will become some of the best irregular cavalry in the world, unequalled for long and rapid marches. They possess all the qualities that made the reputation of the wild hordes led on by Genghis Khan." The training here alluded to will come, it is supposed, from Muscovy, which leads us to a consideration of what Moscow and St. Petersburg have been plotting with regard to these countries.

For more than a century and a half, Russia, more or less openly, by fraud or by force, has been extending her dominion in Asia in two directions—towards India and towards the Pacific. In the middle and latter part of the seventeenth century she made but slow progress; was often worsted by the very Tartars from whom the Russian race is descended; and was often ignominiously defeated by the Chinese, who dictated humiliating terms and compelled acceptance of them at the hands of that "Great White Khan," who was considered as being nothing more than the troublesome vassal of the Emperor of the Celestials. The Muscovite policy, however, is one of perseverance, and it has triumphed so far as it has gone. After intrigues and aggressions which have been continuous for above a hundred and fifty years, Russia has succeeded in wresting the Valley of the Amoor from China, and gained a position from which, in a month, if it suited her interested policy, she might sweep the Chinese Emperor, throne and supporters, into the Gulf of Petcheli! In the other direction alluded to, Russia is labouring with an energy worthy of a better purpose. Her power is slowly, but surely, and not altogether quietly, extending itself over the plains of Central Asia; and when this is sufficiently secured, "the nomades will have to pay both in men and money."

Wherever Russia has obtained an influence among the Kirghis tribes, a young Russian officer is placed near the chief, to whom he translates all messages from the Czar, and from whom he obtains signatures to papers of which the chief does not comprehend a word. The present of a gold medal, a regimental coat, or a laced hat, with permission to take a part,—that of not saying anything,—in the yearly council held at Ayagus, induces the poor chief to believe that his influence has increased. He mistakes the badges of his degradation for the symbols of his increased glory,—and is content.

This manner of man is easily over-reached by the emissaries of the Great Khan at St. Petersburg, who, as a speculator in land, carries on a wonderfully successful business. Here is an account of the conclusion of a conference between native owners of territory and Russian annexing agents; the latter resolved to make a bargain their master would approve of:—

"Their appetites having been fully satisfied, the director deemed it a favourable moment to commence proceedings. He therefore desired his interpreter to ask the price at which the Sultan valued the stony tract, and the pastures on its western side, with the stream of water which bounded it in that direction. In reply, the Sultan stated that he and the chiefs were willing to sell the land with the minerals on the following terms, viz.: That two hundred and fifty pieces of silver (meaning silver

roubles) should be paid to him, and a gold medal added, like the one presented by the Emperor Alexander I. to Sultan Boulania. Also, that another sum of one hundred silver roubles

should be paid to the mulla and the chiefs, to be equally divided among them. But he said that the river they could not dispose of, as that was necessary for their pastures and for watering their cattle. The director now told them that he must absolutely insist on the river being included, as he could not purchase the mines without it. Nor would it, he said, be injurious to the tribes, as their cattle could drink at the stream before it entered the mining district, where it passed for many miles through their pastures. He, however, promised to add something more to the amount named by the Sultan, if this point was ceded to him. Having stated this, he ordered the two hundred and fifty new and shining roubles to be placed on the table; the large gold medal, with its broad red ribbon, was taken out of its case and placed near the money; and a hundred roubles more counted down for the mulla and the chiefs. A gold-laced scarlet coat and a sabre were now added to the heap intended for the Sultan; a kalat or long robe, of vivid colours, and a gold imperial, were put on the table for each of the chiefs and the mulla. The interpreter was instructed to tell the Sultan that all these things would be given if the river were included in the purchase; if not, the negotiation would be at an end, as no further offer would be made. They were not prepared for this mode of settling the matter: it seemed far too abrupt, as their transactions usually occupy days; indeed, sometimes weeks are consumed in settling their bargains, time being no object with them. They looked at each other with astonishment, and then at the valuables spread out before them, anxious to secure them, but still desiring to get more. Having spoken together for some minutes, the Sultan said that it would take time for them to consider the matter; adding that they would consult all the tribes about it, and give an answer in a few days. The director fully understood what was meant by this, and that they intended delaying their decision until something more was offered; and knowing that this would be continued for an indefinite period if once permitted, he told the Sultan that, as the matter had been under the consideration of himself, the mulla, chiefs, and tribes, for several months, they could not require any further time. Besides, he had taken a long journey to meet them, and now he could not, under any circumstances, admit of delay. It therefore became necessary that they should definitely decide, before the council broke up, whether they accepted his offer or not; finally he assured them that, if they once left his yourt without concluding the bargain, he should start on his return within an hour. Without further remark the Sultan began examining the sabre and the coat, desiring that the latter should be tried on. He was quickly invested with it, and viewed the extraordinary change that appeared in his person with perfect satisfaction. The gold medal was hung on his breast, producing a great effect; but when a Cossack buckled the sabre on his waist, this settled the point. He would have given half the rivers in the steppe sooner than be stripped of his weapon and finery. In a few minutes the mulla and chiefs were bedecked in their new clothing, evidently on the best terms with themselves, and vastly admiring each other. The money was handed to the Sultan, which he rolled up in his shawl and secured round his waist, as this was too precious in his eyes to be trusted to any other hands. The mulla and chiefs followed his example. Shortly afterwards the Sultan stamped his seal on a document transferring to the great White Khan the whole district shown on a map prepared beforehand, with all the gold, silver, and other minerals it might contain, its pastures, and the river. Thus, for a sum of about one hundred and fifty pounds, his Imperial Majesty acquired mines and a freehold property in the Kirghin Steppe, which will, I have no doubt, expand rapidly towards all the points of the compass. These mines are of immense value, and are now sending their contributions to the Imperial Mint."

43° N. lat. and 82° E. long. This fort is only three days' distance from Kulja, a populous Chinese city; and Mr. Atkinson holds its erection as significant of the fate which awaits the warlike tribes of the Great Horde. Life in localities like these is but dreary at the best, even to Russians skilled in hunting, or fond of researches in natural history. In winter the Cossack families, men, women, and children, sent to form a nucleus of civilization and of increase in the neighbourhood of the forts, suffer severely.

Mr. Atkinson praises the prudence which characterizes one portion of the policy of Russia,—her respect for the religion and superstition of the tribes whom she robs or cajoles of their lands. No priests accompany the Cossacks who take possession. The former, indeed, are the less wanted, as our traveller asserts the impossibility of making a single convert, and adduces several instances in proof of the danger of meddling with the native superstitions. A Cossack who had made light of the power of the Kirghis White Lady, was found murdered and cut up, near the ancient temple which was supposed to be her particular residence. A logical Tartar had no difficulty in pointing to the fact, as proof of the existence and power of the "Lady" on whom the Muscovite had cast dirt.

In the Russian fort at Kopal, Mr. Atkinson was wintered up; but he was hospitably entertained by the officers of the establishment, including a doctor, whose usefulness was a little impeded by want of a hospital and medicines. The most remarkable man of the garrison was a priest who, for some rascality, had been unfrocked, and condemned to serve in these regions as a common soldier, for an indefinite period. This fellow was a godsend to the dull garrison. The mirthful villain rendered the stormy Christmas-time joyous by writing plays, training men to act them, and by delivering from the summit of a lofty pole, biting satires, of which he was himself the author, against fasts and their founders, the clergy of every degree, confession, monks, nuns, and the Greek religion generally. These produced roars of laughter and applause, so true to nature were they, and so slashingly delivered; "but, had he uttered them in Russia, his fate would have been chains and the mines of Nertchinsk for life."

By means of forts and towns, Russia is surrounding the Kirghis hordes with civilization, the forerunner of a moral revolution which will open up,—is, indeed, already doing so,—new and vast fields for commercial enterprise. The Cossack picquets will soon be at Kashgar, but Mr. Atkinson does not recommend an English merchant to establish himself or an agency in the Russian or Tartar emporia. He suggests rather the establishment of fairs on the Indus, whence our produce or manufactures may be carried away by the Tartar merchants to the Kirghis tribes, and to Northern China; in return for which “the Kirghis, for their part, will send into India vast numbers of good horses annually ; silver and gold are plentiful in their country ; and their other resources will be rapidly developed.” This end is being hastened by artillery,—the fear of which has subdued many a tribe. The Mountain Kirghis and the Kalmucks are now the subjects of Russia, “and when under proper command, they will be the most formidable body for mischief of any in Central Asia.”

That English merchandise will find its way to Northern China by other roads than through the Kirghis country, Mr. Atkinson clearly points out. Meanwhile, the Russian merchant-princes on the Siberian border are energetic

and enterprising; and their successors, if not themselves, will find new fields for mercantile undertakings down the Amoor and into the Pacific. The author deems the time not far distant when "a mercantile fleet will be moored in their harbours in the Gulf of Tartary and Sea of Japan."

How Russia has executed her part towards the fulfilment of this prediction, the annexed narrative will show. A glance at the map will enable the reader to comprehend the narrative, and the importance of what it details, more fully than any topographical description:—

"From 1869 to 1854 the junction of the Argoun and Shilka was the most easterly point of the Russian empire in the region of the Amoor. But, during all this period of 165 years, the frontier Cossacks were constantly penetrating into the country on the north of the Amoor; and many wild stories have been handed down of the contests these hardy hunters had with the Manjou race. Besides which, many convicts have escaped from the mines, and descended the Amoor only to be captured by the people on its banks. An exile escaped this way and succeeded in passing all the Chinese posts in a canoe, or small boat, by keeping to the north side of the river. He lived on the produce of his rifle, enduring great hardships, and finally reached the mouth of the Amoor, in the hope of getting away in some vessel. In this he was disappointed, and after all chance of escape had vanished, started on his return. He fell in with a party of Toungouz sable hunters, and spent the hunting season with them. After which they crossed the country towards the upper part of the Zeya, and ultimately brought him to one of the fairs attended by the Cossacks. He was recognized by his countrymen and carried back to the mines of Nertchinsk, after an absence of more than eighteen months. The information which he had acquired was considered of so much value that the chief got his sentence remitted, on condition of his taking another journey to gain more knowledge of the region. At the season of the yermak he was provided with powder, lead, and a few other necessaries, and accompanied the Cossacks to the fair, in the hope of meeting his old companions, the Toungouz. They were there, delighted to see him, and he having been provided with a packet of powder for each man, was again admitted as a brother, and invited to accompany them to hunt the sable. At the end of three days the fair broke up, when he said good-bye to his countrymen, and started with the Toungouz on their homeward journey. This time he acquired a knowledge of the southern side of the Yablonoi, and discovered a short route to the sable-hunting ground far down towards the mouth of the Amoor. Having spent another season sable-hunting, he returned with his companions to the fair, and then to the Zavod, bringing much valuable information about the different people dwelling on the banks of the Amoor, and opened up a road into a valuable fur-producing country. This exile was sent a third time with instructions to penetrate into the regions on the south side of the Amoor, during the sable-hunting season, and return in time to accompany the Toungouz to the fair. They, however, arrived, but he was not with them, nor was he ever heard of afterwards. After him several convicts escaped down the river, but no one returned to tell his story, and it is supposed that they were killed. In 1848 it was decided to explore the Amoor, when an officer, with four Cossacks, were sent in the spring of that year on an expedition down the river in a boat; they were armed and provisioned, and it was hoped that this small party might be permitted to pass unmolested. He also carried instruments for making observations, a telescope, and a quantity of gold coin. It was well known that great jealousy existed among the Chinese authorities; that they always endeavoured to stop the Cossacks pursuing game into their territory, and it was only the dread of their deadly rifles that enabled them to escape from superior numbers. The officer was instructed to avoid coming in contact with the authorities, if possible; to examine their towns and villages from a distance, but not to enter them.

He was desired to conciliate the people on every opportunity, and he carried various articles for presents. It was expected that this party would accomplish the object, if permitted to proceed, in about nine months, and, if stopped, that they would speedily return. Time passed on, and nine months had elapsed; but there were no tidings of the officer and his men. During the winter the Cossacks inquired from all the Orotchons who attended the fairs, if these men had been seen; but no one could give any tidings about them. The Toungouz sable-hunters were promised a reward if they could find them, or learn if they were detained by the Chinese; but all efforts proved fruitless. In 1852 an application was made by the Governor of Kiachia to the Chinese Governor in Urga, stating that an officer and four men had deserted, carrying away with them a large sum in gold and several instruments; that they had descended the Amoor, and it was believed that they had been captured by the Chinese officers, and were detained in one of the towns. If so, the Russian Government desired that they should be delivered up, either at Kiachia, or at any of the forts on the frontier. This produced no results; and I have good reason to believe that they have never been heard of. The Governor-General of Oriental Siberia determined to explore the Amoor, and in 1854 a great expedition was organized by him for that object. It was on such a scale that the Chinese could neither check his progress nor prevent him taking possession of the north bank of the river. In less than six weeks the whole of this vast region, including the country between the Amoor and the Russian frontier to the north of the Yablonoi, had changed masters; it had now fallen into strong hands, and before the end of the year the entire Chinese army could not have dislodged the small body of Cossacks placed in position. General Mouravioff had seized on all the points which his keen eye and practical experience told him were necessary for the security of the new acquisition."

What the results of this may be, it is scarcely possible to conjecture. If Russia makes honourable use of the enormous power she has gained, the world itself may profit by it. If she employs it selfishly or aggressively, she will probably inflict injury on many, herself included. England is greatly concerned in this result, for it is possible that in some of these great plains the cotton-plant may be cultivated successfully, and in such case the probability is indeed strong that a supply of this valuable product will, ere long, be found "at the Russian ports in the Sea of Japan and in the Gulf of Tartary." Settlements are already being made on the Amoor, where industrious colonists, not having to employ years in the clearing of land, will find it easy to raise crops, for pastures are already formed to their hand, where thousands of cattle may find food. To further other ends, the locomotive will lend its aid in this remote part of Asia. Russian steamers are already plying on the Amoor; and the progress of Russia, for good or evil, appears so undoubtedly to the author, that he declares it will not be long before the Mandarin and his satellites will be made to beat a retreat towards the Great Wall. Meanwhile, Russian colonists are fast settling down between Pronge and Castries Bay,—the latter, the port of the Amoor. Glance once more at the map, and then observe the import of the following words:—"Both sides of this strait will, before long, be peopled by Russians, and the island of Saghalian be added to their empire. The latter contains valuable beds of coal, whence Russia can draw supplies for either a steam-navy or for industrial purposes; it will also give her splendid harbours in the Pacific, and leave her fleets free for operations throughout every part of the year."

The length to which our notice of Mr. Atkinson's noble work has gone leaves us space only further to mention that the Russian story to

which we have confined ourselves almost exclusively, is but an episode amid touching or brilliant details of travel among the Asiatic tribes, of their social life, their history, religion, and superstitions. The followers, too, of nearly all the "ologies" will meet with something in these graphic pages of peculiar interest to them. The entire volume is admirable for its spirit, unexaggerated tone, and the mass of fresh materials by which this really new world is made accessible to us. We will only add, as the progress of Russia in that quarter is of especial interest to the merchants, and through them to the people, of England, that news reached London on Thursday announcing the acquiescence of the Russian Government in the project of the Governor-General of Siberia for the commercial development of the Amoor Country; the whole of which will be opened, in 1862, to a *free* search for minerals. The authorities at St. Petersburg have, hitherto, reserved the search to the Government. With this reform, foreign emigration will be encouraged, a liberal policy in commerce and intercourse upon the Amoor will be carried out, and life will flourish again over the countless graves of the old and early world.

The London by Moonlight Mission. By Lieut. John Blackmore, R.N. With a Brief Memoir of the Author. (Robson & Avery.)

Lieut. Blackmore's work in the London streets is only to be spoken of tenderly, lovingly, gratefully. All persons of every sect and creed will unite in one expression of praise of his courage and his true-heartedness. He has undertaken a task which needs most careful handling; and were not his delicacy equal to his bravery, he could not have succeeded so well as he has done. Many there are who would not hesitate to attribute unworthy motives to his generous zeal,—to many, his piety might seem to savour of illimitable cant,—to more, his easiness of belief would be taken as an undiscerning enthusiasm too credulous to be critical; but through good report and evil report, through the weakness inseparable from all human work, and through the many backslidings which must needs be in such an undertaking, the Lieutenant has held his way manfully, and the Moonlight Mission has been a blessed success so far. This little book is a record of some of the more interesting cases, prefaced by a Memoir of the Lieutenant, which deals savagely with the former self—the unregenerate John Blackmore who sang and laughed away his sailor boyhood in that manner of innocent levity so abhorrent to Bunyan and Peter Cartwright. There is an exaggerated and unwholesome tone in these retrospective denunciations, a kind of pious complacency in dwelling on the difference between this picture and that, a too conscious self-gloryification in the miracle of grace and conversion that has been wrought, to make the biography attractive. The same tone appears in some of the letters and records of the poor girls themselves. An unctuous piety, that trenches nearly on the Pharisee's thanks to God that he was not as other men, insomuch that he was better than they,—though doubtless sincerely gratifying to religionists of the Lieutenant's particular views, as evidencing a certain change of heart and the reception of infinite grace,—to others not of those views, seems forced and by no means healthy. In putting off the Old Man, and inducing themselves with the garment of righteousness, they get a certain satisfied tone which is intensely unpleasant to a looker-on. One girl, who, by her own confession, was the most heartless thief and the most unblushing liar to be found, who brought disgrace on

more than one innocent person whom she suffered to be condemned for her thefts, and who fell, without any outside pressure of temptation, into every sin within her scope, gets converted in the Home, and regenerated to that pass that she is a Scripture reader and expositor in Australia! So full of spiritual light is she, that she can afford to be ungrateful to the beams of that ray of Christianity called Roman Catholicism, by which she was once sought to be reclaimed, but which is somehow or other mixed up in the same page, and as if in the same category as the worst vices of her life. This ultra-Evangelicism is in bad taste, to say the mildest thing possible of it; and we are sorry to see such a great work as Lieut. Blackmore's disfigured by aught so small and unchristian as sectarianism. It matters little by which door we are enabled to enter the Temple of Holiness; and the fallen woman who is reclaimed by the gentle sisterliness of a nun, or by the fatherly protection of Lieut. Blackmore, is equally "a brand plucked from the burning," equally a victory in place of a sacrifice. The Home has been a glad place of refuge to many in a worldly point of view as well as in a spiritual. Several poor creatures have been married respectably and well, in consequence of their stay there, and thus have been restored to the world and active life again. A young girl of rather higher position and education than ordinary, whose history was published in one of the Missionary Publications, received two offers of marriage; one of which was from a clergyman. She had, however, accepted a third who had offered himself in the mean time, "a rich man," and there is a little graphic touch about the *déjeuner* on the wedding-day, which has a flavour of piety and plum-pudding about it irresistibly comic. But these are the minor defects, the small human flaws, without which no human work exists; and in noticing them broadly and without disguise we would not be held to include the higher graces and nobler efforts of the Mission. Supposing, even, that the Lieutenant's sanguine statistics are beyond the exact mark; yet, after pruning and paring away every possible exuberance, there still remains a solid core of good—a deathless result of undeniable mercy. Many a poor wretch who loathed the sin she had no means of leaving, has found peace and safety in that kindly Home: many a battered soul, mud-stained, foul, diseased, has there become purified and cleansed; and the life which had but the alternative of suicide or crime, has blossomed out anew into happiness and virtue. Because of such great gains as these, the Moonlight Mission may be termed a noble institution. God speed its task—God bless its work!

Life of Andrew Jackson. By James Parton. In 3 vols. Vol. II. (New York, Mason Brothers; London, Sampson Low & Co.)

THIS second portion of Andrew Jackson's biography fully sustains the good opinion we formed of the undertaking on reading the first volume. Mr. Parton persevered in his plan of incorporating in his work long extracts from the writers to whom he is indebted for information. He would have done better had he condensed these numerous and lengthy *excerpta*, and, trusting more to his own powers, had painted his pictures for himself, referring his readers to the authorities by which the accuracy of his statements might be tested. He might thus have produced a brilliant narrative, instead of an unwieldy compilation, the enormous bulk of which will deter many, to whom time is of value, from perusing its pages. This, however, is the only grave fault we can find with Mr.

Parton. He is a painstaking, honest, and courageous historian, ardent with patriotism, but unprejudiced—a writer, in short, of whom the people of the United States have reason to be proud. With an admirable truthfulness, and a daring that savours of genuine British "pluck," Mr. Parton declines to whitewash his hero, preferring to portray him faithfully, neither palliating the bad nor exaggerating the good of his character and career. The first half of the volume is devoted to a somewhat too protracted account of our disastrous Expedition against New Orleans in 1814. In nearly all important particulars the version given of those hostilities, in which the world was shown (not for the first time) how much easier it is for irregular troops keeping close within their lines to maintain a good position than it is for veterans to drive them from it, is identical with the narrative of the same events by "The Subaltern," whom the Duke of Wellington emphatically pronounced to be, as a military writer, "excellent." Indeed, Mr. Parton in this section of his work does little more than reprint the productions of English writers. When we reflect on what are the leading characteristics of the military literature of other European nations, the following testimony to our veracity—even where the truth tells against us—is not less pleasant than it is just.

"The voyage to Lake Borgne, the landing of the army on its marshy shores, and indeed every incident of the campaign, so far as the English were concerned, has been graphically described by officers who served in the expedition. These gentlemen evidently had no thought but to tell the unvarnished truth. The candour and modesty, the highbred, unaffected kindness of tone which mark all of those personal narratives that I have been able to procure, give the reader many a pang to think that the stupidity or the ambition of cabinets should have made it the duty of such men, so valiant and good-humoured, to go to the Delta of the Mississippi for a purpose so unnatural and absurd. It may also be truly said that the English personal narratives, both of the revolutionary war and of the war of 1812, give us a higher idea of American courage and endurance than is always afforded by our own too eulogistic historians. This is partly owing to the fact that we read the English narrative without any suspicion that the good conduct of Americans is overstated, or their failures concealed, and partly because it belongs to the character of genuine Englishmen to do justice to an enemy that defeats them, as well as to a rival by whom in peaceful pursuits they are surpassed. In unfolding, therefore, the wonderful series of events which followed the sailing of the fleet from Negril Bay, I shall, as often as possible, let English officers, who took part in them, tell their side of the strange, the almost incredible story."

But though the story is told by our own countrymen, and in our own way, the subject is so distasteful that we hurry over the pages, and would fain forget the miserable contests of two chivalric nations, belonging to the same race, and speaking the same language. We could almost wish the United States a few glorious battles with the great military Powers of the Continent, so that they might be in a position to find a vent for fireside patriotism in recounting their victories over armies not connected with them by the ties of blood and the noblest associations of the past. As it is, their patriotism is ever liable to take the form of enmity towards Great Britain. The most brilliant portion of their history being unfortunately little more than a catalogue of terrible struggles with the mother-country, the same books which encourage their children to love their free institutions, almost necessarily rouse within them sentiments of animosity to that power from which the founders and first guardians of those institutions encountered resistance.

We willingly turn from battle-fields to the celebrations that enlivened New Orleans on the return of peace. General Jackson was, of course, the hero of the day. Wherever he went the mob huzzed at his heels. The ladies presented him with a diamond pin. Good Mrs. Jackson, arriving with a party of Tennesseans, made her appearance on the scene, jolly, beaming with triumph, and full of pious talk. The belles of New Orleans were surprised to find her a fat, short, vulgar woman, ignorant of the laws of grammar, and, worse still, ignorant of the fashions of mantua-makers. At first, the *beau-monde* of New Orleans smiled superciliously, and an anti-Jackson caricature was published, representing "the stout Mrs. Jackson as standing upon a table, while Mrs. Livingston was employed in lacing her stays, strugling to make a waist where a waist had not been, but was not." But the lady's good sense, imperturbable good temper, and perfect freedom from affectation, soon made her a favourite "amongst the elegant Creole ladies," who presented her with a showy set of topaz jewelry. In the language of our American cousins, she "professed religion;" but during that period of universal rejoicing she laid aside some of her conscientious scruples, and so far countenanced mundane vanity as to take part in a grand public ball, and give the company a taste of "a frontier break-down":—

"The upper part of the Exchange was arranged for dancing, and the under-part for supper, with flowers, coloured lamps, and transparencies with inscriptions. Before supper, Jackson desired to look at the arrangements unaccompanied, and I was appointed to conduct him. One of the transparencies between the arcades bore the inscription, 'Jackson and victory: they are but one.' The General looked at it, and turned about to me in a half-fellow sort of way, saying, 'Why did you not write "Hickory and victory: they are but one." After supper we were treated to a most delicious *pas de deux* by the conqueror and his spouse. To see these two figures, the General, a long, haggard man, with limbs like a skeleton, and Madame la Generale, a short, fat dumpling, bobbing opposite each other like half-drunken Indians, to the wild melody of '*Possum up de Gum Tree*,' and endeavouring to make a spring into the air, was very remarkable, and far more edifying a spectacle than any European ballet could possibly have furnished."

The best feature of Jackson's private life was his unvarying love for his un instructed and personally unattractive wife. She was devotedly attached to him; and while he was going about the world fighting duels, swearing, and swaggering, she stayed at home praying God to change his heart, and make him a better man. The time came when her prayers were answered, and the General, too, became a regular attendant at public worship, and regarded his sins with shame and contrition. The famous Peter Cartwright, who united in his own person the best qualities of the Rev. Rowland Hill and the Benicia Boy, states in his 'Autobiography' how he dared from the pulpit to direct the thunders of the Gospel against the General:—

"Monday evening came; the church was filled to overflowing; every seat was crowded, and many had to stand. After singing and prayer, Brother Mac took his seat in the pulpit. I then read my text: 'What shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul?' After reading my text, I paused. At that moment I saw General Jackson walking up the aisle; he came to the middle post, and very gracefully leaned against it, and stood, as there were no vacant seats. Just then I felt some one pull my coat in the stand, and turning my head, my fastidious preacher, whispering a little loud, said, 'General Jackson has come in—General Jackson has come in.' I felt a flash of indignation run all over me like an electric shock, and facing about to my congregation, and purposely speaking out audibly, I said, 'Who is

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General Jackson? If he don't get his soul converted, God will damn him as quick as he would a Guinea negro!' The preacher tucked his head down and squatted low, and would, no doubt, have been thankful for leave of absence. The congregation, General Jackson and all, smiled or laughed right out, all at the preacher's expense. When the congregation was dismissed, my city-stationed preacher stepped up to me, and very sternly said to me, 'You are the strangest man I ever saw, and General Jackson will chastise you for your insolence before you leave the city.'—'Very clear of it,' said I, 'for General Jackson, I have no doubt, will applaud my course; and if he should undertake to chastise me, as Paddy said, there is two as can play at that game.'

This volume, however, does not bring us down to the period when the General relinquished the ways of sin. The most unscrupulous and utterly unjustifiable parts of his career are those that succeeded the defence of New Orleans. The Seminole War and the Arbuthnot murder are the two darkest blots on his reputation. Of the latter crime Mr. Parton does not attempt a palliation, but frankly calls it "an act of such complicated and unmitigated atrocity, that to call it murder would be to defame all ordinary murders." And this decided opinion accords with the sentence pronounced by the most intelligent and patriotic citizens of the States in 1819. Resolutions were put before the House of Representatives condemning the trial and execution of Arbuthnot and Ambrister, disapproving the seizure of the Spanish ports of Pensacola and St. Carlos de Barrancas in West Florida, and reflecting severely on Jackson's conduct. It is true that these resolutions were lost; but the important minority that voted for them, and the splendid speech of Mr. Clay, made Jackson's numerical triumph a moral defeat. In the Senate the expression of feeling against Jackson was more emphatic. On the 24th of February, Mr. Lacock's report, which "went dead against Jackson on every point, from the raising of the Tennessee Volunteers to the taking of Pensacola," was presented to the Senate, who, by a vote of thirty-one to three, ordered it to be printed and lie on the table.

But Jackson appealed to the mob—and their verdict was unanimously in his favour. It was true that he had without authority exercised imperial functions—had raised troops by a method unknown to the laws—had invaded the dominions of a king who was at peace with the United States, and having seized a fortress belonging to that king, had expelled its garrison, and filled it with his own troops. It was true also that he had assumed the dread prerogative of dooming men to death without trial. "Could," asks Mr. Parton, "the Autocrat of all the Russias, leading an expedition into Circassia, do more? Would any recent Autocrat of Russia have done as much?" But to the raw material of democracy these were trivial offences. Dazzled by his military success, and incapable of appreciating the principles which he had violated, the multitudes were on his side, and gave him an ovation wherever he went. Not less enthusiastic in his support would have been a standing army of 600,000 men, if such a dangerous power had existed in the country. Looking at the character and influence of Jackson—violent, overbearing, unscrupulous, and greedy of power—the student of history has little hesitation in saying what would have been the course of the General, and the fate of the States, if, as in the military governments of Europe, an important part of the population had been trained to the profession of arms, and educated to obey the voice of a commander. Intoxicated by the acclamations of the people, irritated by the censures of far-seeing politi-

cians (whom he would have designated enemies of the commonwealth), the General would have indulged his love of "promptitude" and "decisive measures," and established on the ruins of the Republic a military despotism. As it was, instead of suffering in any way for his misdeeds, he triumphed over those who were opposed to him; and resigning his commission on the reduction of the army in 1821 (a measure to which he was vehemently adverse), he rose to the highest offices to which a citizen of the United States can lawfully aspire.

Pen and Pencil Sketches of a Holiday Scamper in Spain. By A. C. Andros. (Stanford.)

NOTHING can be much more melancholy to our fancy, than the chronic giggle of a *Miss Mercy Pecksniff*. Few things are more depressing to the spirits than books in which light-heartedness is laboriously professed. But the real gaiety of young enjoyment, how delicious it is! What can equal that first start for the Continent,—when Calais looked lovely, when the unselect shore-folk of Ostend passed muster as examples of foreign customs? This is a merry book, and few will read it without thinking that its author must be a pleasant fellow to meet on a journey. Not that he is innocent of slang; but in these days, when a duchess may be heard on an official staircase saying, "I believe you, my boy,"—when *Lord Adonis* entertains the *Lady Corinna* he is courting with the impudent repartees of some Corinthian she—it is next to useless to protest against cant words and phrases in authorship snatched from the last Strand burlesque. Somehow, too, Spain seems to inspirit, if not to inspire, slang,—as Switzerland inspires sentiment, and Italy remarks on "pictures, taste, and the musical glasses." Even Ford's "Classical Guide-Book" is not impeccable as regards its English. With either classicality or pretensions to guide any tourist, Mr. Andros has nothing to do. He rattles away, amusing himself as he goes—witness the following run down the rail from Madrid to Alicante:—

"Onward is again the word; we must leave this night for Alicante. A brougham conveys us to the railway terminus, where we have a lively argument with the driver regarding his proper fare. The scamp endeavours to make it appear that he has acted from purely philanthropic motives in bringing us at all, and only as a great personal favour has he degraded his vehicle by loading it with trunks. In consideration of the extreme violence done to his feelings thereby, he claims pecuniary compensation adequate to the moral outrage he has so generously inflicted upon himself. Unfortunately, however, for the magnanimous Jehu, he has to deal with at least one Londoner who, from a long sojourn in that world of cabbies, has become case-hardened to all urgent appeals or menacing insolence from the fraternity of the whip. Though we cannot order the fellow to drive to the nearest police-station, force him to produce his book, compel him to give us his number, nor appeal to a friendly 'bobby,' we manage to get off without paying more than about double the 'bare fare,' disregarding the look of impotent fury the fellow casts upon us as we enter the station. The ticket-office consists but of one large white-washed room containing a buffet, a cigar stall, and the *descacho para billetes*, a small pigeon-hole to which all have to fight their way to procure their tickets. Of course I leave all this to Julio, and at eight p.m. we find ourselves once more on the rail, bound for Alicante. This time our party consists of two Spanish civil engineers (*very civil* they afterwards prove); a stout old gentleman; his better half, a shrewish old dame, with the 'hi of an awk'; their niece, a beautiful creature with a fair complexion and rich golden hair; and their servant, a strapping handsome lass, to whom the engineers are remarkably, and I think officiously attentive, for the poor wench gets but little sleep the whole night.

Cigars—*O tempora! O mores!*—are speedily produced, for Spanish ladies do not at all object to smoking, and my own private 'cutty' being soon in full operation, the consumption of tobacco and dense fumes of smoke become really terrific. To my English notions, the thing at first seems scandalous, but the novelty is decidedly agreeable, and I feel little disposed to question its propriety. Finding that one of the engineers speaks French, I get into conversation with him, and as night advances, persuade him to take me on to the locomotive, though he makes it a *sine quid non* that I shall lend him my cape for the ride. The night is dark as Erebus, the country flat and bare as the desert. With a deafening scream off we start. The engine-driver, a Spaniard, keeps inciting the wretched stoker to fresh exertions every moment, shoving in coke in the most reckless manner, till the steam fairly roars out of the safety-valve, when, of course, open flies the furnace-door and out rush the flames. Then the infatuated creature is continually turning on the gauge-cocks to make sure of the boiler supply, so that what with one thing and another, I am roasted in the legs, drenched in the body, and frozen in the head from the rush of the bleak night air. After a run of about twenty miles, heartily sick of this mode of travelling, which affords but little scope to my inquisitive turn of mind, I return to the carriage, where Julio is affecting to be soundly asleep. The sly dog! I strongly suspect that he has been otherwise engaged during my absence, and the *empresamiento* with which he takes leave of the ladies in the morning goes far to confirm my suspicions. At about four A.M. we stop at Albacete, a thriving town, called the Sheffield of Spain, where are manufactured the 'puñales' and 'uchillos,' long-pointed knives, so often used for murderous purposes by this excitable, hot-blooded race. Here the engineers leave us, and we continue our journey with the old couple and the young females. The former are apparently buried in profound repose, though I cannot but persuade myself that the stern old lady is sleeping with one eye open, which is watching me with spectral glare. That basilisk optic haunts me in my broken slumbers like a hideous nightmare. As the poor bird, transfixed with horror, gazes entranced at the advancing form of the deadly serpent, so do I encounter with shuddering awe the eye of that fearful old woman. The lovely señora sees it not, nor does the handsome Abigail, and I am prepared to take a solemn affidavit that my gallant comrade does not observe it: I alone am under its spell, and vainly endeavouring to shake off its baneful influence by resolutely gazing at the rising sun, the fiery orb seems to dilate and resolves itself into a human eye. Heaven and earth, it is too much! I collapse into my seat and stare fixedly at nothing, till on the arrival of the train at a station near Noveldar, a movement is made by our fellow-travellers, and to my inexpressible relief they quit the carriage after a ceremonious and courteous *adios*. The ban is removed; I feel a mighty weight lifted from my chest, and in joyful mood join with Julio in a jovial chorus, before the termination of which the train is rapidly approaching its destination. We are now surrounded by lofty, rugged mountains, yellow and bare, without the slightest sign of vegetation. The outline of the hills is picturesque: the hard profile of the craggy rocks and deserts of stone, glittering in the already burning rays of the morning sun, form a truly Arabian picture, and one would scarcely feel surprised to see a train of camels issuing from any of the defiles we are rapidly passing. Suddenly Julio pokes his head out of the window and exclaims in hearty accents, 'There is Alicante!' I look forth and in the distance descry a lofty rock towering above the horizon. That rock is Alicante: in a few minutes we run into the station and are at our journey's end."

Mr. G. P. R. James, somewhere or other, told of a French tourist whose sole fixed idea and motive was to eat *la galette*.—We have seen a fastidious traveller in Italy sustained from city to city by the hope of learning how the game of *pallone* was played.—We have met with a complacent gentlewoman out on the Grand

Tour who acquiesced in suffering every sort of gallery, church, and opera-house, and had done so for months, on the calm condition of "going home by Geneva." She had read of Geneva in her school-days—the sole reason she could assign for this settled and interesting purpose.—Mr. Andros scampered through Spain with a more exciting whim to lure him on—the resolution of seeing a bull-fight;—merrily laughing at himself when baulked by disappointment after disappointment. We recommend his book of one hundred and sixty-three pages to the railway reader. Some of the woodcuts with which it is crammed are exceedingly spirited. Even the coloured lithographs have a sort of life and a finish rare in specimens of that art so small in scale.

My Life and Adventures: an Autobiography.
By the Author of 'New El Dorado,' &c.
2 vols. (Hall & Co.)

The author of this autobiography is the gentleman who signs himself Kinahan Cornwallis. He has been a hero, as every one must admit, to ride upon his whirling of romance and adventure. Strange that any one individual, even "the model Irishman," should undergo so much and be alive to tell the tale. To begin with—his mother dies; then, poor orphan, his sister expires, a week before the day fixed for her wedding; thirdly, his brother is killed in the hunting-field; next, he loses a pair of gloves and an umbrella at Liverpool. He starts for the Cape, and the Fates being still adverse, the steamer is burnt, with an awful sacrifice of life, although the narrator, just in the nick of time, is saved by a passing barque. Once in South Africa, he hunts in the far forests, but a lion having eaten his companion, he thinks that corner of the globe a little too hot for a civilized gentleman. Therefore, he hies him to Brazil, to the market of founding brides, and to the presence of New-World Imperialism:—

"The empress and her maids of honour made their appearance on the balcony. The emperor was a fine commanding-looking man, of florid complexion and with light hair. His features, although heavy when in repose, lighted up with great vivacity when animated. The empress was of the average female height, with a tendency to *embonpoint*; but the expression of her countenance was sweet and intelligent; and an abundance of light hair, falling in curls upon her cheeks, only tended to enhance her charms. She was arrayed in a robe of white satin, with a profusion of the richest gold embroidery, draped with Valenciennes lace, and looped with sparkling brilliants. The train was of green velvet, fringed with gold, and she was crowned with a magnificent tiara of diamonds mingled with emeralds. The attire of her maids of honour was very similar, and they were all remarkably good-looking."

O skies, islets, and wavelets! O lions and leopards! We are only condensing the transcendentalisms of Mr. Kinahan Cornwallis, who, it should be said, travels under the name of Sackville St. Lawrence, Esq. We now have him "flew like a thought" to the Philippines, where he dwells palatially, and is disappointed by the ugliness of the female cigar-makers. Not so with the maiden Mestizas, who—

"were exquisitely elegant in their movements, and appeared to have a natural aptitude for the acquisition of the accomplishments of dancing and music, in the execution of which arts there was little less than witchery. In dress they were unique, tasteful, and attractive. A small shirt, made of piña, otherwise pine-apple cloth, with wide short sleeves, and worn loose, unbound to the figure and descending to the waist, round which was girt a petticoat, made of silk or cotton of a gay colour, were the articles of body dress, beyond which their small and stockingless feet were encased in light heelless slippers embroidered in gold-lace

They invariably went bonnetless, with their long and beautiful hair exposed to the admiring gaze."

Away for the waters of Singapore, radiant with a flutter of flags, the cross of St. George, the lilies of France, the Danish cross, the Yankee gridiron, the German towers, the Prussian eagle, and the golden banner of Spain. The Irishman has an eye for the picturesque, and is appropriately enthusiastic. To America, however, by way of Ceylon and the Red Sea, without much loitering on the way. There is one charming, very charming little adventure, considering the adventurer is an Irishman, in the land of Egypt:—

"While inspecting the ruins, or rather the place where they once stood, a group of Arabs gathered round me, begging for coins: among them there was a young girl, whose bright eyes sparkled through the openings of her yashmack. I gave her sixpence, accompanied with an invitation to withdraw her veil, upon which she revealed a beautiful pair of sparkling eyes and a fascinating little face lighted up with a most joyous expression."

Irresistible and naughty Mr. Sackville St. Lawrence! He calls at Southampton on the way, to write Byronic verses about his sadness, solitude, and desolation. At New York he meets Miss Arabella Pickersgill:—

"Shall I tell thee, reader? at that moment there flashed upon me a face which ruled my destiny!"

So far the first volume. The second is rubbish without mitigation. It may be synoptically described. St. Lawrence marries; his wife has thirty thousand dollars; he returns to Europe, and settles in Piccadilly; the lady's father thither comes, and falls down a corpse; the hero is arrested for debt, which drags us into tedious and stupid sketches of sponging-houses and debtors' prisons. Ultimately, he again crosses the Atlantic; his wife is seduced; he shoots the adulterer; is tried for murder at Buffalo, and acquitted; hears that the false woman poisoned herself on the following morning, and ekes out a most dreary book with a separate story, which we have not read. We are afraid that Mr. Kinahan Cornwallis gives himself too much credit for facility in the compilation of "lives," and the hashing up of "adventures."

Lectures on the English Language. By George P. Marsh. (New York, Scribner; London, Low & Co.)

It is strange how English is neglected by the English. This neglect begins at school, where they may learn any language but their own, which is supposed either to be known already or to be best taught through the medium of Latin and Greek. It is the same at colleges, with the exception, perhaps, of those established more recently. Whatever other subjects are studied at the older Universities, the English language is not one of those included in the regular course. Whether it is ever pursued afterwards, is a matter of the greatest uncertainty, depending upon a variety of fortuitous circumstances. We do not mean to say that the consequence of this strange neglect is a general ignorance of the language, which corrupts our speech and vitiates our literature, though it was only the other day that ridicule was poured upon the English in Her Majesty's Speech from the throne. A sufficient practical acquaintance with ordinary usage to ensure general correctness of speaking and writing, there may be; but how many of us can pretend to a scientific knowledge of our mother-tongue—the elements of which it is composed, and the proportions in which they enter into its composition, its history, its peculiarities, its points of likeness and unlikeness to other languages, its past changes and present

tendencies? And surely if there be any language worthy of our study it is our own, if on no other account because it is our own—that in which the mighty deeds of our forefathers are chronicled, the works of our great writers treasured up, and all those qualities which distinguish us as a nation embodied and set forth. To adopt the words of Dean Trench on the subject:—"we cannot employ ourselves better; for there is nothing that will more help to form an English heart in ourselves and in others than will this. We could scarcely have a single lesson on the growth of our English tongue, we could scarcely follow up one of its significant words, without having unawares a lesson in English history as well, without, not merely falling on some curious fact illustrative of our national life, but learning also how the great heart which is beating at the centre of that life was gradually being shaped and moulded. We should thus grow, too, in our feeling of connexion with the past, of gratitude and reverence to it; we should estimate more truly, and therefore more highly, what it has done for us, all that it has bequeathed us, all that it has made ready to our hands. It was something for the Children of Israel, coming into Canaan, to enter upon wells which they digged not, and vineyards which they had not built; but how much greater a boon, how much more glorious a prerogative, for any one generation to enter upon the inheritance of a language, which other generations, by their truth and toil, have made already a receptacle of choicest treasures, a storehouse of so much unconscious wisdom, a fit organ for expressing the subtlest distinctions, the tenderest sentiments, the largest thoughts, and the loftiest imaginations, which at any time the heart of man can conceive!"

It was in a desire to extend the critical knowledge of English, that the Lectures before us had their origin. They formed the commencement of what is termed a post-graduate course at Columbia College, New York. The trustees were fortunate in securing the services of so able a lecturer. We have read his work with much satisfaction, though it forms a bulky volume of about seven hundred large pages. Our satisfaction would have been still greater, if, by adopting a more compact and direct form of expression, avoiding the repetitions for which he apologizes, and confining himself within the strict limits of his subject, he had made the book smaller. But taking it as it is, we give it a hearty welcome, as calculated to excite an interest in the study of English, and to render valuable assistance in its pursuit. It is distinguished by a higher order of scholarship, a more thorough investigation of original sources of knowledge, a sounder judgment, a more correct taste, and a purer style than we generally find in Transatlantic productions of this class. Being in the form of lectures, it is, as the author states, rather "a collection of miscellaneous observations upon the principles of articulate language, as exemplified in the phonology, vocabulary, and syntax of English," than a complete and systematic treatise. Nevertheless, it points out and exemplifies the right method of studying English. The following deserves to be quoted:—

"There are two languages, which, considered simply as philological aids to the student of English, must take precedence, the one as having contributed most largely to our vocabulary and built up the framework of our speech, the other, both as having somewhat influenced the structure of English, and as being in itself a sort of embodiment of universal grammar, a materialization, I might almost say a petrification, of the radical principles of articulate language. These are the Anglo-Saxon and the Latin tongues. When an intelligent foreigner commences the study of English, he finds

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every page sprinkled with words, whose form unequivocally betrays a Greek or Latin origin, and he observes that these terms are words belonging to the dialect of the learned professions, of theological discussion, of criticism, of elegant art, of moral and intellectual philosophy, of abstract science and of the various branches of natural knowledge. He discovers that the words which he recognizes as Greek and Latin and French have dropped those inflections which in their native use were indispensable to their intelligibility and grammatical significance; that the mutual relations of vocables and the sense of the English period are much more often determined by the position of the words, than by their form, and in short that the sentence is built up upon structural principles wholly alien to those of the classical languages, and compacted and held together by a class of words either unknown or very much less used in those tongues. He finds that very many of the native monosyllables are mere determinatives, particles, auxiliaries, and relatives; and he can hardly fail to infer that all the intellectual part of our speech, all that concerns our highest spiritual and temporal interests, is of alien birth, and that only the merest machinery of grammar has been derived from a native source. Further study would teach him that he had overrated the importance and relative amount of the foreign ingredients; that many of our seemingly insignificant and harbors consonantal monosyllables are pregnant with the mightiest thoughts, and alive with the deepest feeling; that the language of the purposes and the affections, of the will and of the heart, is genuine English-born; that the dialect of the market and the fireside is Anglo-Saxon; that the vocabulary of the most impressive and effective pulpit orators has been almost wholly drawn from the same pure source; that the advocate who would convince the technical judge, or dazzle and confuse the jury, speaks Latin; while he who would touch the better sensibilities of his audience, or rouse the multitude to vigorous action, chooses his words from the native speech of our ancient fatherland; that the domestic tongue is the language of passion and persuasion, the foreign, of authority, or of rhetoric and debate; that we may not only frame single sentences, but speak for hours, without employing a single imported word; and, finally, that we possess the entire volume of divine revelation in the truest, clearest, aptest form in which human ingenuity has made it accessible to modern man, and yet with a vocabulary, wherein, saving proper names and terms not in their nature translatable, scarce seven words in the hundred are derived from any foreign source. In fact, so complete is the Anglo-Saxon in itself, and so much of its original independence is still inherited by the modern English, that if we could but recover its primitive flexibility and plastic power, we might discard the adventitious aids and ornaments which we have borrowed from the heritage of Greece and Rome, supply the place of foreign by domestic compounds, and clothe again our thoughts and our feelings exclusively in a garb of living, organic, native growth.

After illustrating the value of Latin as subsidiary to the study of English, Mr. Marsh thus speaks of other languages adapted for the same purpose.—

"The Meso-Gothic, both intrinsically, and as being the earliest form in which considerable remains of any dialect cognate with our own have come down to us, is of much philological interest and importance. There are extant in Meso-Gothic a large proportion of a translation of the Gospels, executed by Ulphilas, a semi-Arian bishop of that nation, in the fourth century, portions of commentaries on different parts of the New Testament, and only some other less important fragments. It is a point of dispute how far any of the later Teutonic dialects can claim direct descent from the Meso-Gothic, but it is certain that it is very closely allied to all of them, and scarcely any modern Germanic forms are so diverse from that ancient tongue as to have been derived from it. In variety of inflection, and power of derivation and composition, in the possession of a dual and of certain passive forms, and in abundance of radical words, an inexhaustible

material for development and culture, the Meso-Gothic bears a certain resemblance to the Greek, while, on the other hand, it is identified as a Germanic speech, by the character of its radicals, almost all of which yet exist in the Teutonic languages, by its want of any verbal tenses but the present and the past, by the co-existence of a very complete system of vowel-changes in a strong, with a well-marked weak order of inflection, and by general syntactical principles. The Scandinavian languages, the Swedish and Danish, and especially their common mother the Icelandic or Old-Northern, the Frisic, which, in some of its great multitude of dialects, perhaps more than any other language resembles the English, the Dutch, and the German, particularly in the Platt-Deutsch, or low German forms, are all of value to the thorough etymological and grammatical study of our native tongue. They are important, not so much as having largely contributed to the vocabulary, or greatly influenced the grammatical structure of English, but because in the poverty of accessible remains of Anglo-Saxon literature in different and especially in early stages of linguistic development, we do not possess satisfactory means of fully tracing the history of the Gothic portion of our language. There are very many English words and phrases, whose forms show them to be Saxon, but which do not occur in Anglo-Saxon manuscripts. These may generally be explained or elucidated by reference to the sister-tongues, and consequently some knowledge of them is almost as useful to the English student as Anglo-Saxon itself. I should unhesitatingly place the Icelandic at the head of these subsidiary philologies, because, from its close relationship to Anglo-Saxon, it furnishes more abundant analogies for the illustration of obscure English etymological and syntactical forms than any other of the cognate tongues. It is but recently that the great value of Icelandic philology has become known to the other branches of the Gothic stock; and one familiar with the treasures of that remarkable literature, and the wealth, power, and flexibility of the language which embodies it, sees occasion to regret the want of a thorough knowledge of it in English and American grammatical writers, more frequently than of any other attainment whatever."

In addition to an acquaintance with these matters, Mr. Marsh recommends the student to make himself familiar with the various phases which the English language has assumed at successive periods of its growth, by reading our earlier authors for himself, instead of depending upon the statements of others. He enforces his precept by his own example, and encourages by his success, which is particularly seen in his able treatment of the etymology of words—a rock upon which so many have split through want of knowledge or of judgment. Even the best lexicographers are often found wanting here. As instances of Mr. Marsh's success in etymology we may mention the words *grain* and *demijohn*. Among the fifteen meanings of the former word found in Webster's dictionary is that of a *dye* or *tincture*, without any specification of colour. Mr. Marsh traces the use of *grain* in the sense of a dye, to the fact that an insect of the genus *coccus*, resembling the American cochineal, and called in later Latin *granum*, on account of its seed-like form when dried, furnishes a reddish dye of various tints. This explanation throws much light upon several passages of Milton, which he quotes, and the phrases, "purple in grain," and "in grain," found in Shakspeare. The word *demijohn*, meaning a large glass bottle covered with wicker work, originated, says Mr. Marsh, in the circumstance that this article was formerly much made at Damaghan, in the Persian province of Khorassan. He mentions, in confirmation of this view, that this vessel is called in the East *damagan* or *damajan*. The word *palaver*, too, which has been recently traced to a wrong source, he rightly deduces from the

Portuguese *palavra*, applied to a council of African chiefs by the Portuguese traders on the African coast. We cannot, however, understand why he should assign a Latin, rather than a Greek origin, to the words *air* and *angel*.

Mr. Marsh objects to Latham's doctrine, that languages have a tendency, as time goes on, to drop inflections and use separate words instead; contending that the process of fictional development continues till the language becomes a written one, after which there is a reverse tendency to simplicity of grammatical form, and this tendency is favoured by foreign conquest and missionary efforts. For a full explanation of his views upon this point, as also upon the relations between the idiom of a language and the character of those who use it—in reference to which he has some excellent observations—and various other matters of interest, we must refer to the work itself.

NEW NOVELS.

The Queen's Pardon. By Mary Eyre. (J. Blackwood.) — "The Queen's Pardon" is very interesting and readable as a story; but it turns on a point of false heroism and false morality that cannot be too strongly set forth and confuted. In the novels of the present day, as we have often had occasion to remark, the moral hinges on some point of exaggerated and often quite fanciful duty, to the utter exclusion of all legitimate considerations and claims. Monstrous forms in the natural world are caused by the exaggeration of some one organ or limb, whilst the other parts are diminished out of their just proportion. It is the same in the moral world; if one virtue be set up and nourished and worshipped at the expense of all the rest, the result is "a perfect monster that the world ne'er saw," and not a hero at all. Self-sacrifice is at present the favourite shape that these *hors-d'oeuvres* of heroism take in works of fiction; and no virtue can well cause more painful inconvenience to all the parties concerned, because the commonest rules of justice and equity are lost sight of,—and justice is the primeval root of all virtue. In youth we may be dazzled by the irregular grandeur and tropical warmth of generosity,—it appeals to the imagination, which enables us to fill up the gaps caused by its superiority to ordinary rules, and man is so made that no calls are so gladly met as those on the imagination; but as we grow older, the fitful intermittence of generosity (which has a natural antipathy to being "calculated upon") becomes inconvenient. The journey of life is long; and we are too tired to make *tours de force* ourselves, or to care to see them in others, by the time we have discovered that it will need all our strength "to endure to the end." We have learnt, too, that superhuman efforts of generosity are followed by proportionate shortcomings in other ways; excess in one point entails a deficiency in some other; the *habit* of aiming at superhuman acts of generosity and self-sacrifice sadly increases the number of "negligences and hindrances" in the way of the steady fulfilment of the clearly-defined but unexciting and unromantic routine of the duties appointed to us in the state of daily life in which we are placed. Perhaps, by the time our course is almost run, we learn to recognize the great fact, that justice is the *only* basis of real excellence, and that no heroism or generosity can exist unless it be rooted and grounded in justice. There is no flashy splendour in justice, but its steady shining light is as a lantern to the feet. The story before us is full of false sentiment, false heroism, and false morality. It is an interesting and carefully worked-out story—so much the more reason to show its error. It may be taken as a type of the class we have been stigmatizing. The hero of "The Queen's Pardon," William Grey, is an excellent man, who has worked his way up to prosperity by his own good conduct, aided by the kindness of a wealthy tradesman, who has through life behaved as a father to him; he has married a charming young woman, with whom he is living

in great happiness, when her whole existence is blighted by a sudden and incomprehensible catastrophe: William Grey, her husband, is arrested for robbing his master and benefactor! He asserts his innocence at his trial; but does not defend himself, nor offer any explanation of the circumstances against him, nor show any cause why any one else should be thought guilty. The result is that he is tried, convicted, and sentenced to transportation for life. His wife yields to the influence of facts and believes him guilty, but announces her intention of "doing her duty," that is, of following him to banishment; but she lets him see, like the good and thoroughly moral woman she is, that her love for him, having been founded on esteem, is now completely shattered, and that she is quite incapable of feeling love for a convicted felon. William Grey undergoes his sentence. In due time his wife keeps her word and joins him. In a most stony and steadfast fashion she does her duty as a wife, never complaining or repining; but making him feel that there is the icy barrier of a crime between them. William Grey shows himself the same excellent and exemplary man he had been up to the moment of his arrest; but it never enters the heart of his wife to think that there may be some mystery in the case, and that this good man and good husband may, after all, be innocent of theft. Innocent he is: he has taken on himself the guilt of another; he has allowed his own good name to be branded; he has sacrificed his wife's happiness as well as his own (mortgaged the whole of his future life as well as blackening his past); and all for a piece of false sentimental heroism! The true robber was the only son of his patron and benefactor. William Grey believed it would kill the father to discover the delinquency of his son; he, therefore, took all the blame and suffered in the son's stead, appearing a monster of ingratitude as well as a thief. Whilst in the Back Settlements, William Grey's position becomes complicated by the birth of children, who inherit a felon's name, which increases his wife's gloom; but, though he is made miserable and, by a natural consequence, ill-tempered and bitter-spoken by his wife's demeanour, yet, knowing as he does its cause, he never confides his secret to her. No! he persists in his heroic "self-sacrifice." His wife's love has died out, but she persists in "doing her duty," the most ingenuous form of tormenting in the hands of some people, and the most exasperating. At last, after twenty-two years, the real criminal confesses on his death-bed, and William Grey receives "the Queen's pardon." He and his family all come home. By the death of a relative they become very grand people indeed,—members of the aristocracy. William Grey is treated as a hero. Quite satisfied to find him innocent of crime, his wife never resents, nor, indeed, seems sensible of the real injury that has been inflicted on her; nor does the author in the least recognize the cruel injustice which has blighted her life by a falsehood and a secret. We have pursued this story at some length, to express our blame of the false and pernicious sentimentality that pervades it,—taking it as a type of the heroism set forth in modern stories, to record our protest that nothing founded on a lie, or on injustice, can come to good.

After Many Days: a Tale of Social Reform. By Seneca Smith. (Tweedie.)—There appears to be two separate stories welded together in this Temperance tale of 'After Many Days.' The introduction, the account of the Temperance festival, and the little incidents and episodes connected with it, are extremely amusing. There is a touch of genuine fun in them, which we confess does not often sparkle in Temperance tales. There is, however, another tale tacked to the introduction,—or rather two stories rolled into one; they may be, and no doubt they are, highly instructive and warning, but they are told in too spasmodic and rhetorical a tone to please us. We rejoice, however, to see that the very worst cases of drunkenness are capable of being cured—which gives a cheerful ending to an otherwise very dismal story. Seneca Smith is undoubtedly clever; but he might refine his style and manner with great advantage to himself and his readers.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

The County Families of the United Kingdom, &c. By Edward Walford, M.A. (Hardwicke.)—Books of the class to which this belongs are numerous now-a-days. Besides the regular Peerages, of various prices, the Red Books and Directories, we have writers who tell us "Who's Who," and others who leave us in full possession of every fact about our knights. That the main support of such works comes from those who are mentioned in them, is obvious enough. But of course they have their utility to men of business as well as their interest for the merely curious. It is illustrative of the publicity of our age, as well as of the increase of intercommunication amongst us, that with regard to every person of the least note in the kingdom, there should be one authority to tell us who his grandfather was,—another, what his opinions were when he stood for Potborough,—a third, his town address,—and so forth. Fame, in our age, instead of being as vague as the Fame of Virgil, aspires to the minuteness of the 'Hue and Cry.' Mr. Walford's 'County Families' is an elaborate and in many respects original compilation, which aims at a greater comprehensiveness than the general run of works of the kind. Not only "county families" are taken in, but personages of all kinds of note, irrespective of land-tenure;—and complete accuracy is attempted in the details of their birth, education, marriages, &c. It is not a kind of book that one can review at length. If we dealt with the list of county names, we could only repeat what we said in noticing Mr. Shirley's 'Noble and Gentle Men,' of the paucity of ancient families in the present territorial system; and as for criticizing the business details, no critic in the world could accurately perform the task. Such compilations must contain many errors; and only repeated winnowings and repeated editions can bring them to anything distantly approaching perfection. In dipping into Mr. Walford's pages, we find reason for impressing on him the necessity of great attention, if he hopes to earn for his performance the dignity of an Annual. He omits, for instance, the Wilkies of Foulden in Berwickshire,—though Berwickshire is by no means a county that has old families to spare. In his list of Wigtownshire gentry, we miss the Hawthorns, and find Viscountess Kenmure transported from an adjoining county. We could fly southwards to Sussex, and show similar errors at that other end of the United Kingdom; and probably, if the volume were overhauled by a local man for each county, each county would have something to complain of. Such things are trifles, some may say,—but, if so, the whole performance is a trifling; for in what but its correctness in these matters generally can its value consist? The cure is in Mr. Walford's own hands, and when the difficulty and novelty of the task are allowed for, we do not feel inclined to doubt of his ultimate success. He must lay down,—let us add,—some stricter rules as to what he is going to say about the descent of families. In the mass of cases, he leaves the names to speak for themselves, but sometimes (thanks, perhaps, to eccentric correspondents) we find extraordinary statements made about houses of no extraordinary mark. One gentleman's ancestor is said to him to astonishment, to have "deposed Henry the Third;" and there is a flourish in another case about the Dukes of Brittany which,—unless it be tolerated on the ground of having given us a laugh on a wet day,—has little to recommend it. Mr. Walford must remember that the business character ought to be the prevailing feature of his new venture; and if he sticks to this principle, he will do well.

Camp Life: or, Passages from the Story of a Contingent. By Lascelles Wraxall. (Skeet.)—More last words about the Black Sea expeditions against Russia. Mr. Wraxall was with the woeful Ottoman Contingent at Kertch. That ill-used phalanx, with the equally persecuted Land Transport Corps, had a bad season of it on the Azoff shores. He floated out, with his European comrades, in a shipful of champagne; but was landed, on bare boards, in a colossal, but freezing room, with a contract stove to warm him, and every sort of contrariety to vex his soul. But he must needs

be a family man, in spite of reasons and probabilities; and Mrs. Wraxall had to weather out the adventure with him. The narrative, as we can promise even that sated reader who has resolved never more to read the undivine tale of the Russian War, is vivacious, and may be read through enjoyably at a sitting. Mr. Wraxall, perhaps, is a little too familiar, too personal, too confidential; but his confessions are spiced with a grim sort of humour: and as the story of the Kertch occupation is by no means threadbare, it is a merit in him that, if he sets something down in malice, there are no attempts at concealment. Gentlemen who aspire to wear gold lace, and dignify themselves with military rank, will be somewhat shy of "contingent" service after listening to the adventures of "Captain" Wraxall, who, in his final pages, is lugubrious enough about that Captaincy.

Ellen Mordaunt; or, the Standard of Life. By Mrs. Webb. (Routledge & Co.)—This little work maintains its author's well-earned reputation in writing for the young, and shows how a girl's book may be so written as to convey a knowledge of saving truths without becoming necessarily pious or inflated. We should feel no hesitation in placing such a book in the hands of our daughters.

The Money-King, and other Poems. By John G. Saxe. (Low & Son.)—"The Money-King," having been "delivered before the Phi Beta Kappa Society of Yale College, 1854," claims a place among those estimable exercises of craftsmanship yclept "Prize Poems," with which genius has rarely much to do. In England their day is somewhat gone by; not so, we presume, in America. Mr. Saxe "goes out" on his humour. If he have studied English models, these we conceive may have been Praed and Hood;—since far-off echoes of the Horatian ease of the author of 'The Red Fisherman,' and the original humanity of him who "sang the Song of the Shirt," may be found in the ballads, ditties, and whimsies which this American collection includes. The following may be given as a fair specimen of Mr. Saxe's smaller poems:—

I'M GROWING OLD.

My days pass pleasantly away;
My nights are blest with sweetest sleep;
I feel no symptoms of decay;
I have no cause to mourn nor weep;
My foes are impotent and shy;
My friends are neither false nor cold,
And yet, of late, I often sigh—

I'm growing old!

My growing talk of olden times,
My growing thirst for early news,
My growing apathy to rhyme,
My growing love of easy shoes,
My growing hate of crowds and noise,
My growing fear of taking cold,—

All whispers in the plainest voice,
I'm growing old!

I'm growing fonder of my staff;
I'm growing dimmer in the eyes;

I'm growing fainter in my laugh;

I'm growing deeper in my sighs;

I'm growing careless of my dress;

I'm growing frugal of my gold;

I'm growing wise; I'm growing yes—

I'm growing old!

I see it in my changing taste;

I see it in my changing hair;

I see it in my growing waist;

I see it in my growing hair;

A thousand signs proclaim the truth,

As plain as truth was ever told,

That even in my vaunted youth,

I'm growing old!

Ah me!—my very laurels breathe

The tale in my reluctant ears,

And every boon the Hours bequeath,

But makes me debtor to the Years!

E'en Flattery's honeyed words declare

The secret she would fain withhold,

And tells me in "How young you are!"

I'm growing old!

Thanks for the years!—whose rapid flight

My sombre muse too sadly sings;

Thanks for the gleams of golden light

That tint the darkness of their wings;

The light that beams from out the sky,

Those Heavenly mansions to unfold

Where all are blest, and none may sigh,

"I'm growing old!"

—How the above just misses distinction in the sentimental-clever school of lyric writing, needs to be explained to no one that appreciates style. Throughout the entire book we are obliged to say "all but." If Mr. Saxe, however, be young, in

his future very name him from an im poets not in his place living. Amor Messrs. Ascension Liddon, Woodford, Shadow, Wilkins, R. St. of Heart the Life, The Land (Long) Sancti Mullen, sophy (or, the Funds Plan b (Ward) by M. tions up Avant (Dulau, Finibus, waring

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THE Institu cester interest the a itself, and, to ev excus day to de Me to the B. of the

his future efforts he may bridge over the chasm,—very narrow, but also very deep,—which separates him from excellence. Many a man who has started as an imitative versifier in his first volume (to name poets no less mighty than Byron and Shelley) has in his second one risen to individuality, and taken his place among those who are followed when living and are crowned after death.

Among religious publications from the press of Messrs. Parker, we have Sermons on *Our Lord's Ascension, the Church's Gain*, by the Rev. H. P. Liddon,—*The Opened Door*, by the Rev. J. R. Woodford,—*The Worship of Christ's Church, a Shadow of Heavenly Things*, by the Rev. J. M. Wilkins,—and *Our Public Worship*, by the Rev. R. St. John Tyrwhitt.—Then we have, *The Gate of Heaven* (Jones),—*The Righteous Man regarding the Life of his Beast*, by T. Jackson (Singer),—*The Ladies' Tamil Book*, by the Rev. Dr. Hoole (Longman),—the Rev. R. Wrightson's Treatise on *Sacred Hagiographa* (Whittaker),—the Rev. J. Mullens on *The Religious Aspects of Hindu Philosophy* (Smith, Elder & Co.),—*Christian Finance*; or, *The Church's Exchequer augmented so as to raise Funds for the Evangelization of the World upon a Plan both Easy and Practicable*, by J. S. Tyler (Ward).—*The Pope; or, the Questions of the Day*, by M. Segur (Dolman),—*God before All: Reflections upon the Temporal Power of the Pope*—[*Die Avant Tout, &c.*], by Un Chrétien Catholique (Dulac),—and *The Service of South Place Chapel, Finsbury*, conducted by F. W. Newman (Manwaring).

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Ada Brenton: or, *Plans for Life*, 18mo. 12. cl. Atkinson's Travels in the Regions of the Amor, royal 8vo. 42s. cl. Bagatelle, La, new edit. 2s. 6d. bd. Baker & Co.'s Selection of Designs for Check and Share Plates, 5s. 6d. Balfour's *Hand-Book of Naval Architecture*, 2d. ed. 2s. 6d. Bentley's Cook's Every-Day Book, 12mo. 1s. bd. Bickersteth, *Memorials of Doing and Suffering*, 3rd ed. 3s. 6d. Bolus's New System of Tabular Geography, Part I. new edit. 1s. 9d. Book of vagabonds and beggars, ed. Luther, tr. by Hotten, 5s. Boyd's *Illustrations for Naval Training*, 2d. ed. 2s. 6d. Brinsford's *Illustrated Hand-Book*, new edit. 18mo. 2s. Belgium and the Rhine, 5s. cl. France, 5s. cl.; London and its Environs, 2s. 6d. svd. 3s. 6d. cl. Paris, 1s. 6d. svd. 2s. 6d. cl. Brough's *Marston Lynch*, and a *Memoir* by Sale, fc. 2s. bds. Copper's *Kathleen*, 2d. ed. 1s. 6d. Cope's *Book of the Dead*, 2d. ed. 3s. 6d. De Poerier's *Concise System of Phonetics*, 2d. ed. 2s. 6d. Donaldson's *British Agriculture*, imp. 8vo. 3s. 6d. Downing's *Timber Merchant's & Builder's Companion*, 2d. ed. 3s. 6d. Dutton's *Illustrated Guide to the Fisherman*, 2d. ed. 2s. 6d. Ebb and Flow, ed. 1s. 6d. and edit. 2s. 6d. cl. gilt. Eden's *Easton and its Inhabitants*, new edit. fc. 8vo. 2s. 6d. bd. Farr's Every Child's History of Greece, 18mo. 1s. svd. 1s. 6d. cl. Family Atlas, The, Soc. Diff. *Useful Know.* 1s. ed. folio, 3s. 6d. bd. From Hay's *Hand-Hopping*, fc. 8vo. 5s. cl. Geographical Elements of the Earth, 18mo. 1s. 6d. cl. Hall's Two Months in Arran in 1857, 2nd edit. 8vo. 2s. 6d. cl. Hardman's Spanish Campaign in Morocco, cr. 8vo. 6s. cl. Hodges' New Series of Novels, 'Rowcroft's Bushranger', 2d. bds. Humble's *Dictionary of Geology and Mineralogy*, Soc. 18s. cl. Hunt's *Illustrated Guide to the Fisherman*, 2d. ed. 2s. 6d. cl. Jekos, the Brazilian Apa, tr. by De Chatelain, vol. 1, 1s. bds. Kemp's *Rachel Cohen*, new edit. 8vo. 2s. 6d. cl. London Journal, The, Vol. 31, 4to. 6d. cl. Lovell's *Anglo-French Calculator*, fc. 8vo. 1s. 6d. Lovell's *Arithmetical Assistant*, 1837 & 1838, 9s. 6d. Lovell's *Novels*, 1s. Ed. 'What will he do with it?' 7 vols. 4s. 6d. Mitchell's Popular Astronomy, revised by Tomlinson, 2s. 6d. Nicaldean's *Commentary on Portions of New Test.* (3 vols.) 1s. 15s. Oliver's *Boys' School*, 2d. ed. 1s. 6d. and 2s. 6d. cl. Oxenden's *The Earnest Communicant*, new edit. 18mo. 1s. cl. Oxenden's Portraits from *Bible, Old Test. Series*, fc. 8vo. 3s. cl. Parlour Library, 'Warneford's Tales of the Slave Squadron', 2s. 6d. Pinches Practical Electionist, 3rd edit. 12mo. 4s. cl. Proctor's R. W. Literary Reminiscences and Cleanings, 4s. Bunn's *Hand-Book of the Welsh*, 2s. 6d. cl. Seaman's Royal Rifle Match on Wimbledon Common, 12mo. 1s. cl. Schorner's Royal Bible Pictures, royal 4to. 40s. hf. bd. Shepherd's *Ellen Seymour*, new edit. fc. 8vo. 2s. 6d. cl. Shepherd's *Ellen Seymour*, 2d. ed. 1s. 6d. cl. Smith's *Mag. Blaize*, and *Master of the Alms*, by Yates, 2s. Stephen's *Essays in Ecclesiastical Biography*, 4th edit. 8vo. 1s. 6d. Vaughan's (Rev. D. J.) *Sermons on the Resurrection*, fc. 8vo. 1s. 6d. Vaughan's (Rev. J. J.) *Memorials of Harrow Sundays*, 2nd ed. 10s. 6d. Walker's *Rud. Series, Denison on Clocks*, 2d. ed. 2s. 6d. cl. Walker's *Rud. Series, Denison on Clocks*, 4th ed. 2s. 6d. cl. Walker's *Rud. Series, Denison on Clocks*, 5th ed. 2s. 6d. cl. Windsor's *Ethics*; or, *Mens, Manners, and Books*, 12mo. 2s. cl. Worboys' *Heavenly Blue*, new edit. fc. 8vo. 2s. 6d. cl. Yarns for Green Hands: a Treatise on Yachtmanhood, cr. 8vo. 7s. 6d.

THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.

THE Annual Meeting of the Archaeological Institute took place during the past week at Gloucester. The numerous objects of antiquarian interest in the neighbourhood, to say nothing of the abundance of architectural remains in the city itself, rendered the meeting peculiarly attractive, and, on the whole, the weather (that July anxiety to every one) was exceedingly favourable to the excursionists. The proceedings commenced on Tuesday the 17th, under the presidency of Lord Talbot de Malahide, when the Members were welcomed to the venerable city by the Mayor, the Bishop, the High Sheriff, and by Capt. Guise, the President of the Coteswold Club. Mr. E. A. Freeman con-

ducted the visitors to the various churches and minor ecclesiastical buildings of the city, and in the evening papers were read at the Tolsay. The Rev. W. C. Lukis expatiated 'On the Ancient Bell-Foundry of Gloucester'; and the Rev. S. Lysons read a paper 'On Dick Whittington,' showing that his cat was no myth, and claiming him, on the authority of MSS. in the British Museum and the Heralds' College, as a Gloucestershire man, of good descent, from the Whittington family who held land at Pauntley, about nine miles from Gloucester, in the reign of Henry the Third. Mr. J. J. Powell gave much valuable information relative to the early commerce and manufactures of Gloucester; and on the following morning papers were resumed, at which the Rev. J. L. Pettit read a highly-interesting paper 'On Tewkesbury Church,' and the Rev. C. H. Hartsorne read a learned and valuable communication 'On the Ancient Parliaments of Gloucester.'

On Wednesday evening the Members and friends of the Institute attended a *Conversazione* at Highnam Court, given by Mr. Gambier Parry, where the appropriate decorations of the mansion and the rich collections of paintings, enamels, and ivory carvings, excited great admiration.

On Thursday excursions were made to Cirencester and Fairford. At the former place the ecclesiastical antiquities were explained by the Rev. Canon Powell, and a supplementary elucidation was afforded by Mr. J. H. Parker. Prof. Buckman did the antiquarian honours of Lord Bathurst's Museum of Roman Antiquities. At the latter the extensive series of painted glass windows found numerous admirers, and, indeed, a large number of the excursionists made their way in this direction. In the evening two papers of very great interest were read:—the one, 'On the Domestic Architecture of Gloucestershire,' by Mr. J. H. Parker; and the other, by Dr. Guest, 'On the Conquest of the Severn-Valley in the Sixth Century.' The Rev. Lee Warner also communicated a paper 'On a Copy of Coverdale's Bible in the Cathedral Library.' The proceedings commenced on Friday morning with a paper by the Rev. John Earle, and an essay by Mr. R. West MacCott, R.A., 'On Medieval Sculpture, Illustrated by Examples in Gloucester Cathedral.' Prof. Willis's historical account of the Cathedral, and his subsequent lecture on the architectural features in the building itself, were not only the chief event of the day, but, taken altogether, the most attractive point of the Meeting. For some years past, the Institute has missed the advantages of the learning and guidance of Prof. Willis, and his renewal of these kind offices afforded universal satisfaction.

On Saturday the Members were courteously invited, by Admiral Sir Maurice Berkeley, to Berkeley Castle, where the numerous paintings, miniatures, and works of Art, in addition to the well-known historical associations and history of the castle, afforded great gratification. The architectural features of the castle were pointed out by Mr. J. H. Parker. On Monday the day was devoted, by invitations of Col. Meyrick and Mr. J. C. Dent, to visiting Goodrich Court and Sudeley Castle. Tuesday concluded the Meeting with business forms and arrangements; but many of the Members combined with the Coteswold Club in an excursion on Wednesday to Chepstow and Tintern Abbey, and on the following day a special party was formed to visit Wroxeter.

The Temporary Museum, held in the College School near the Cathedral, contained many objects of great and varied interest. Among them the following merited especial attention:—An early Limoges enamelled Chasse, exhibited by Mr. Gambier Parry.—A Reliquary or Shrine of Limoges Enamel, with representations of the murder of Becket, formerly preserved at Hereford, contributed by the Rev. F. T. Haugvald.—A Square Ivory Casket of the fourteenth century, with romance subjects in relief on all sides; a work of extreme rarity and beauty, the property of Sir M. Crawley Boevey, Bart.—A Magnificent Silver Battle-axe worn by Tippoo Saib in his belt: the handle contains a dagger, silver gilt, contributed by Mr. Edmund Hopkinson.—A Proclamation of Charles the First, dated 1643, at the Camp before Gloucester, "now in Rebellion against Us," exhibited by Mr. William Nicks.—The mayor and corporation of the city contributed the Civic Sword and Fur Cap, four Silver-gilt Maces, and a large Silver Dish presented to the corporation by Lord Somers of Evesham.—A Chinese Ewer and Basin, beautifully enamelled on metal, the property of the Rev. Samuel Lysons,—also A Letter, of great interest, found among the papers of the late Samuel Lysons, addressed by the Earl of Argyll to his son, dated Edinburgh Castle, the 30th of June (16)85, immediately before his execution.—A Cope of Crimson Velvet, embroidered with golden stars, and crowns, and rich gold border of saints in canopies; probably of English workmanship in the fifteenth century, preserved in Campden Church, Gloucestershire, and exhibited by the Rev. C. E. Kennaway, vicar.—An Electropype, in silver, of the celebrated Corbridge Lanx, belonging to the Duke of Northumberland, exhibited by Mr. Albert Way.—A Bronze Curfew of the sixteenth century, contributed by Mr. Henry Catt.—A Clock, or Orrery, constructed on the Ptolemaic system, date about 1540, the property of Mr. Octavius Morgan, M.P.,—A Silver Medallion of the Seven Bishops of 1681, in excellent preservation, contributed by Mr. T. L. Baker.—The Watch given by Henrietta Maria to General Rudhall, exhibited by Mr. D. I. Niblett, —An Official Leaden Seal, or Bulla, attached to a papal bull of Paul the Fifth, exhibited by the Rev. J. Beck, together with an impression of the Fisher- man's Seal in use by the present Pontiff.—A matchless Series of Rings arranged and classified according to ages and countries, the property of Mr. Edmund Waterton. They include Indian, Egyptian, Etruscan, Greek, Roman, Early Christian, Gnostic, Lower Empire, Merovingian, Early German, Anglo-Saxon, Papal, Cardinal, Episcopcal, Iconographic, with sacred monograms, devotional inscriptions, with royal portraits, serjeants' rings, Monograms from the fourth to the ninth century, Heraldic, Signet rings, Posie rings, Italian "Giardinetta" rings, Wedding, Talismanic, Florentine, with portraits in niello (very rare), and "Memento" rings. Among them was especially observable a magnificent Bloodstone, engraved with the device of St. Peter in the bark, fishing, intended to serve as a papal Fisherman's seal, about 1600, but left unfinished. The ponderous ring, also, of Sixtus the Fourth (della Rovere), afforded a curious record of the massive jewelry employed in the fifteenth century. The Rev. John Webb exhibited a silver medallion found at Edgehill. A collection of Oliver Cromwell's and other rings, contributed by Mr. Edmund Hopkinson, of Edgworth Manor, who also exhibited other numerous objects of considerable merit and interest in metal-work.—A Curious Drawing, in fine brush lines, with a black paint on plaster, of Charles the First, signed and dated, M. S. Fe., 1647, attributed to M. Symonds, the property of the Rev. J. Beck.—The Embroidered Gloves worn by King James the First, from the Strawberry Hill Collection, contributed by the Rev. J. Fuller Russell.—Fibula of Anglo-Saxon gilt bronze, found in a cemetery at Fairford, together with many other interesting antiquities from the same locality, the property of Mr. W. M. Wylie, —A Fine Enamel by Jean Courtois, representing St. Bruno, surrounded by scenes in medallion taken from the legends of his life, Italian Ivories of the thirteenth century, and an Ivory Triptych of early fourteenth century, were contributed by Mr. Gambier Parry.—Other ivory carvings of great beauty were contributed by the Rev. J. Fuller Russell and Mr. John Webb.—Two curious Ivories, with heads of Sir Martin Frobisher and Ralph Whitehead, in strong relief, were also contributed by Mr. Gambier Parry.—A Book of Hours, combining MS. and printing, with illumination, date 1530, was exhibited by Mrs. Ward,—a large series of Chamberlain's Official Gilt Keys was exhibited by Mr. Octavius Morgan, M.P.,—a volume of Letters written by Sarah, Duchess of Marlborough, from November the 30th, 1720, to June the 5th, 1729. They were principally addressed to Mr. Sergeant Pengelly at his chambers in Serjeants' Inn, Fleet-street, and to him afterwards as the Right Honourable the Lord Chief Baron. These valuable documents are the property of the Rev. John Webb.

The Note-books of Sir James Thornhill, full of curious memoranda and spirited sketches, during his tour in England and Holland, dated 1711, and of a trip to Paris, in February 1714, afford singular records of localities and manners at the commencement of the eighteenth century. His first entry in the Paris volume is, "The Dover coach goes from y^e Crosskeys in *Gracious* [Gracechurch] Street, full fare in 16 sh. give 8th earnest. They go Mond: Wed: and Frydays." An extensive series of Miniatures, many of which had previously been exhibited at the London Apartments of the Institute, were forwarded by the kindness of the Duke of Buccleuch.—Mr. C. S. Bale also exhibited his beautiful miniatures of Queen Elizabeth, Queen Jane Seymour, by Holbein, and Lord Hunsdon,—a very fine miniature painting of the Cardinal Duke of York, was contributed by Mr. Edmund Waterton. It was presented by his eminence to the late Henry Englefield, of Rome. Several rich specimens of Bookbinding which had belonged to the Cardinal were exhibited in the same case with the miniatures.—Numerous Portfolios were laid on the tables, containing the original drawings and topographical collections of the late Samuel Lyons, whilst many of the most remarkable, in point of careful finish and artistic power, were arranged upon the walls, and afforded a relief to the various rubbings of inscriptions and brasses which so frequently preponderate in collections of this nature.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Florence, July 4.

It is not a little provoking to see the strange blunder committed by some of the English journals within the last few days, with regard to the state of public feeling at this moment prevalent in Central Italy, while she looks anxiously on at the seething work of transition daily taking place at the "toe of the boot." If the writers of such articles as seem with confidence in the efficacy of *Bombino*'s reforms, under the belief that the more northern provinces of the peninsula can be blinded by so palpable a "*burattinata*," or puppet-play, as our Florentines style it,—if such writers, I say, could only have lounged down our Via Calzajoli on Thursday, when the first telegram, announcing these precious concessions to national feeling, had just arrived, I think they would, one and all, have confessed that there was little chance of the most hopeful of those who hunger after a peaceful adjustment of Italian affairs, trying to set his teeth in the stone which was offered for bread to the "*anatissimi suditi*" of Francis the Second. So unmistakeable was the blighting gloom on every face that morning, that it seemed like a repetition of that which fell on the city after the ill-omened peace of Villafranca.

Every daily paper gave the astounding news of "a Constitution on the broadest basis of reform; a general amnesty; the tri-coloured banner;" and, strangest of all, "an immediate alliance with Piedmont, for the concerting of joint measures for the welfare of Italy!" A mighty mouthful of sugar-plums, truly, for a people to swallow which only last week was bayoneted, bombarded, and burnt out of house and home by the savage soldiery now preparing to hoist the banner of Italian freedom, and shout "Viva l'Italia!" The painful and puzzled depression printed on the mobile faces of our Florentines was chiefly owing to the doubt whether their brethren of Naples, enervated by a ten years' reign of terror, and a system of demoralizing corruption unparalleled in the annals of civilized Europe, would have yet strength of resolve left in them to reject the proffered dainties, even at the risk of sharing the fate of the yet smoking ruins of Palermo. A great number of persons held the discouraging opinion that the tempter would once again be too strong for them. A still greater proportion, including the more hopeful working-classes, stoutly declared their disbelief in the possibility of "*Vittorio Nostro*" giving a friendly hand to "*quel pezzo di birbante*" (that big rascal) as they irreverently styled the Majesty of the *one* Sicily. But the poor Neapolitans, impaled on the horns of their dilemma between the

guns of Sant' Elmo and the dungeons of Santa Maria Apparante, they thought far less; only remarking, that now they had got a real *Galantuomo* for the first time at their doors,—meaning, of course, Garibaldi,—if they did not know how to be thankful for the blessing, "*peggio per loro!*" (the worse for them). So spake the knots of country-folk buying and selling that day under the lofty arches of the Mercato Vecchio. So grumbled the gatherings of masons and carpenters taking their noonday rest in the purple shadow of some deep archway or lofty wall; for once neglecting to lie stretched at length on the stones, as is their wont, with arms crossed under their heads, and straw hat or jacket flung for shelter across their upturned faces, but squatting in eager groups to talk over the strange tidings, and instinctively feeling as strongly as their better-educated fellow-citizens, that should Naples swallow the bait, the deeply desired unity of Italy would have to wait yet a weary while for its completion.

In front of the numerous newspaper shops which, profusely garnished with political caricatures, now abound in the principal thoroughfares, closely-packed groups were assembled, counting up with ominous looks the ayes and noes of the momentous question. The very journals themselves had little comfort to give their readers that day; and the *Lampione* in particular, a humoristic paper illustrated with excellent caricatures, which, in the present state of the public mind, it need hardly be said are all political, gave vent to its forebodings by filling up its fourth side with the semblance of a huge tombstone, inscribed as follows:—"The King of Naples has granted a Constitution! . . . + . . . Should Naples accept, pray for the soul of the poor kingdom of Italy."

So passed that day and the next, unbroken save by the reverberation of the same uncanny news by telegram from Paris; and all that time a heavy gloom hung over our brilliant June sunshine. On the Friday night, however, the grand constitutional tableau, with appropriate tri-coloured decorations, suddenly dissolved away before our rejoicing eyes; and gave place to Naples in a state of siege, with cannon pointed down every street leading to the royal palace, and the Toledo thronged with crowds shouting *Viva Garibaldi!* The morning's honeyed proclamation (each copy of which, however, when posted on the walls, was flanked by two *birri*, for fear of accident) had been received by the people with contemptuous silence. The soldiers only had hoisted the tri-coloured banner. The police spies only had feebly shouted *Viva l'Italia!* Naples was obstinately determined not to be free. "Thereupon," as runs the terrible catastrophe of the nursery legend, "the evil one changed himself into his own shape." A new proclamation was prepared, over which no *birri* were needed to keep watch: the *stato d'assedio* was proclaimed before sundown, and the Bourbon was himself again!

A sketch from the pencil of a Florentine caricaturist thus jots down the features of this ludicrously fearful "situation." A bare-legged Neapolitan stands in the centre of the picture; his hands unresistingly turned out; his features fixed in comically blank passivity. On his right, a foot soldier savagely thrusts at him with fixed bayonet, shouting, "Be free! or I'll run you through!" On the left of the bewildered victim raves a Jesuit priest, broad-shouldered and burly, who collars him with one hand, and waves a crucifix with the other, as he yells, "Be free! or I'll send you to perdition!"

What the next phase of all this agitation will be, it is hard to decide; though of the ultimate result we can have little doubt. Many among our most intelligent politicians maintain that no rising can possibly be effectual until good store of muskets are in the hands of the people; and the Neapolitan emigrants are, for the most part, well persuaded that *Bombino* will never loose his clutch without first giving a farewell taste of bombardment or pillage to his "beloved" capital. One thing, however, is certain—that the letting loose of the Lazzaroni on the city, as a last resource, is no longer the terrible weapon in the Bourbon arsenal of vengeance that once it was. Even as far back as the infamous, and, in the end, successful popu-

lar tumult got up by Bomba *père*, in 1849, to prevent the assembling of the Chambers, and tread out the new Constitution in blood and pillage, many thousands of the dreaded Lazzaroni had already espoused the popular side, and made so sharp an onslaught on their brethren of the royal faction, that the "pious monarch," pacing up and down his gilded saloon in feverish expectation, looking every moment at the clock, and awaiting the news of the conflict between Lazzaroni and *bourgeoisie*, which he had ordered to commence on the stroke of five, had the mortification to see hundreds of his best men go limping or dragging themselves painfully past his palace, hacked and bruised by these unexpected champions of liberty. Since that day of bloodshed and terror, national feeling has made considerable progress in the ranks of the royalist tatterdemalions; and despite the incessant ranting of their sole instructors, the Jesuit and Capuchin preachers, who never cease relating to them the execrable misdeeds and sacrilegious excesses of those two renegade "*scommuniati*," Victor Emmanuel and Garibaldi, there is good hope that a glimmering of the truth among a great portion of them will in any case prevent the recurrence of the horrors of 1849.

And *à propos* of that often-mentioned and little known class, the Lazzaroni, or, as they are often called by their own countrymen, the Lazzari of Naples, I may relate a few particulars which I gathered yesterday in conversation with a Neapolitan emigrant,—a man of no small repute among our Florentine *littérateurs*. It seems that the idea formed on the shivery side of the Alps of these Lazzari, as of a separate class, dwelling like a sort of savage republic in the midst of a civilized capital, without home or family ties, or visible means of subsistence, is to be shelved among the "popular delusions" which made part of the stock-in-trade of the sixth-rate romances of our salad days. The Lazzari are, in fact, only the lowest, most ignorant, most superstitious portion of an ignorant and superstitious population. The differences observable between their social condition and that of the "*classes dangereuses*" in any other country of Europe, are mainly attributable to the influences of a Southern climate, and the habits of a semi-Oriental indolence. At Naples, as we all know, life may be supported at little cost; that little the Lazzari earn by the labour of their hands, which varies in kind, according to the quarter of the city to which they belong, as well as to the seasons of the year at which they exercise their callings. The fruit-vender of the month of May or June becomes an attendant on the bathing establishments in July and August, a fisherman perhaps in autumn, and a *facciino* of the port, or a *calezzino*-driver in the winter months.

Perfectly true it is, said my informant, that during the baking *solioni*, or great heats of summer, a large number of these versatile bread- or macaroni-winders sleep in clusters on the port or under the archways of church or market; but even these are for the most part gay young bachelors, hardly arrived at adolescence, and not expected by their seniors to lead very regular lives. The Lazzari, father of a family in general passes the night in his stifling hovel, in the midst of a sweltering huddle of his belongings,—looking back, one should think, with no small regret to the less-dignified bachelor days, when his brown *capoto* and fish-basket were his sole companions on the cool sea-beach.

The moral condition of the Lazzari is as varied, moreover, as their place of abode. In one quarter of the town, the worshipful guild of pickpockets mainly claims kindred with them. On the other hand, the San Giovannari,—or Lazzari of San Giovanni,—are proverbial for their strict probity, and are continually employed in carrying small sums of money backwards and forwards between the petty dealers of Resina and the suburbs of Naples. The Lazzari of Monte Calvario are pretty nearly as civilized a race as the lowest class of any other great city; those of Santa Lucia are idle and good-natured; those of the quarter of the port and market remarkable for ferocious savagery and superstition. Of these last, by the way, were the late King's "*braves*" and trustiest pillagers. They are the staunchest attendants at, and the most

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clamorous applauders of the miracles of San Genaro, and put implicit faith in the fiercest denunciations of their rivals in dirt and laziness—the begging friars. Yet it is only the general level of blind ignorance prevalent throughout Naples, and not any peculiarity of race or nurture in themselves, which sinks them so far beneath the civilization of St. Giles's, St. Antoine, or our Florentine Camaldoli. If they do, indeed, form a *quatrième état*—brutal and terrible when stirred up from its depths to wreak a despot's vengeance on the other three—yet, poor souls! they keep faith, after their rude fashion, with their idea of royalty, which, of course, is as much like what royalty should be, as the staring, tinselled, simpering Madonna they worship is like the pure and perfect ideal of motherhood which it is supposed to symbolize.

A few years of only moderate enlightenment of that beautiful, long-degraded Parthenope—a few germs of such social and intellectual life as is growing up around us here at every step, planted in that fertile soil which has lain fallow but for ill weeds for centuries past—and the Lazzari would probably be no longer regarded with terror by the peaceful citizens as the scourge in the hand of tyranny, but as sturdy and faithful defenders of the divine right, not of the King, but of his people's freedom.

TH. T.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

OUR remarks with respect to the objectionable appointment of Mr. W. B. Turnbull to the office of Calenderer of the Foreign Papers in the State Paper Office, have not been allowed to fall to the ground. This week a deputation has had an interview with Viscount Palmerston to present a memorial respecting the appointment in question. The deputation consisted of the Earl of Shaftesbury, Lord Calthorpe, the Hon. A. Kinnaid, M.P., Sir W. Verner, Bart., M.P., the Rev. Sir N. Chinnery, Bart., Sir T. Phillips, Bart., Admiral V. Harcourt, Major Giberne, Rev. T. Alexander, Dr. Cross, Dr. Street, Rev. W. S. Moncrieff, Mr. P. Cator, and Mr. C. Bird. The memorial was signed by 2,500 persons, of whom ten were peers, eighteen members of Parliament, ten baronets, 85 magistrates, 518 clergymen, 553 dissenting ministers, besides several generals, admirals, and other officers in the army and navy, heads of colleges, literary and other gentlemen. Mr. Kinnaid at the same time presented a similar memorial from Scotland, signed by 3,500 persons.

Mr. James Hannay is about to withdraw from literary labour in London, to assume the editorship of the *Edinburgh Courant*,—an office in which he had at least one noble predecessor, namely, Daniel Defoe. What is our loss is a great gain to our Scottish friends, who are not unacquainted with the value of their new acquisition. Mr. Hannay will take with him the good wishes of all his old London colleagues. They who differed from him in politics, admired the skill and the temper with which he expounded his own opinions; all unite in acknowledging his wide range of scholarship, his powers of observation, the logical character of his judgment, and his happy facility and elegance of expression. Mr. Hannay has reaped honours in many a varied field of literature; we have no doubt of his adding to them in the performance of an office for which he is peculiarly qualified. If the latter leaves him any leisure, we venture to recommend him to devote it to an illustration of the history and traditions of the country in which, we know, he takes a particular interest.

The name of Capt. Acton, which appears in connexion with some late doings of the Neapolitan Navy, in which he holds a command, reminds us of a page in Smollett's 'Letters from Italy.' In 1765, that author writes from Leghorn:—"He that now commands the Emperor's Navy is an Englishman called Acton, who was heretofore captain of a ship in our East India Company's service. He has recently embraced the Catholic religion, and been created Admiral of Tuscany." This officer was the founder of the Neapolitan branch of the Acton family. After leaving the Tuscan service, he commanded the Fleet of the King of Naples, subsequently becoming that sove-

reign's Prime Minister. In the latter office, if we reckon the very brief tenure of the Marchese Caracciolo for, what it really was, nothing, Sir John Acton may be said to have succeeded Tanucci, a statesman who was longer in office, as head of a Cabinet, than Pitt and Lord Liverpool together. Tanucci reigned for three-and-forty years. Cardinal Acton was of this Anglo-Italian family, of which the Captain is a distinguished member. The English branch of the family is represented by Sir John Emerich Acton, the eighth baronet, grandson of the Neapolitan Prime Minister, and cousin of the Captain in the Fleet of the King of Naples.

Several important changes have recently been made in the arrangement of the sculptures and casts in the Athenian Galleries of the British Museum. The statues of Theseus and of Hyperion, with the Horses of Day rising from the waves, have been placed within a framework corresponding with the extreme angle of the pediment of the Temple itself. This mounting is so judiciously contrived as to indicate the bearing of the architectural lines upon the figures; affording a necessary frame, without in any degree shadowing or obstructing the sculptures. Great praise is due to the authorities for adopting these principles, which, together with the arrangement of the Temple collection of antiquities, shows an escape from the dark ages of our classic antiquities. Perhaps the most striking of all recent changes connected with the sculptures of the Parthenon has been the restoration of a leg, which long lay as a separate fragment in the Elgin Room, to the figure of Victory in the western pediment of the Parthenon. The fragment has been affixed to the place from which it had been detached for so many ages, on the representation of Mr. Watkiss Lloyd, already well known as a learned writer on Grecian antiquities. By his suggestion, also, the cast of a female figure from Athens has been placed in the position of Selene descending with the Horses of Night in the southern angle of the eastern pediment. The figure, although not traceable even in Carrey's drawings, which are the earliest record known of these sculptures, appears correctly placed, for the peculiar bend corresponds with the architectural space which the cornice must have left for it. Moreover, being accepted as one of the sculptures from the Parthenon pediment, there is no other locality to which it could be assigned.

Dr. Bandinel retires from the Librarian of the Bodleian next September, after a long and meritorious service. His successor will, we trust, take equal interest in adding to the vast treasures of early English literature there preserved; Dr. Bandinel having paid great attention to that important branch of the collection. We may also take the opportunity of mentioning that the printed books of the Ashmolean Museum, as well as the manuscripts, have been removed into the Bodleian Library.

The Report of the Royal Commission on the selection of the new sites for the Courts of Law has just been issued. The Attorney General's scheme for appropriating the space between Carey Street and the Strand is carefully considered and unanimously adopted by the Commissioners. What an opening for architectural display this would be! The site is midway between the Temple, Lincoln's Inn and Sergeants' Inn. The convenience of the public is obviously concerned in such a concentration of the Courts. The fourteen legal offices and the temples of Themis at Westminster, Guildhall, Basinghall Street and Doctors' Commons would be thus concentrated. Not only would the time of the public be saved as well as that of the legal profession, but the Judges would be more at hand to preside in the several Courts to which they are attached. It is proposed, should the plan be adopted by the House of Commons, that the building first to be erected should be a Registry of the Court of Probate and for the Divorce Court, as these departments stand in need of proper accommodation more than any others. It is estimated that this could be furnished in two years from the present time, provided a bill be passed this session,—otherwise, owing to the necessity of giving notice to the occupiers of property, &c., in accordance

with the Standing Orders of Parliament, it will be further delayed. It is understood that the Office of Works does not anticipate any such early commencement of this business, because that department has laid out 30,000*l.* in acquiring and repairing some very old and dilapidated property in Doctors' Commons for the use of the Probate Court, and given notice to purchase the freehold of a property let on lease, of which some eighteen years are unexpired. Undoubtedly, the cost of the proposed new edifice would be something enormous; the public are, however, familiar with the proposition to apply the Unclaimed Suitors' Fund to this purpose, in addition to which it is understood no more than 16,000*l.* will be required from the Consolidated Fund.

The observations we made last week respecting the inconvenience arising from the large number of separate collections of manuscripts in the Bodleian Library, apply with equal force to those in the British Museum. Few things in their way can be more absurd than the adherence, for instance, to the names of the Roman emperors applied to the cases of the Cottonian MSS., or to the nearly equally inconvenient mode of references used for those in the Royal Collection. Then there is the library called the "Additional," beginning, like watches, with some number of thousands, the commencing numbers consisting of the Sloane Collection, the next the Birch, and so on. These useless distinctions, which embarrass the novice, and add unnecessarily to the labour of the initiated, might be avoided by an amalgamation of the whole collection as the Brit. Mus. MSS. A hand-list would serve to identify the old references. There remains only the objection, that by effacing the distinction of separate collections, the chief inducement for bequests will be removed. The British Museum, however, loses more in the long run by the continual necessity of purchasing at the artificial prices created by the *furore* of collectors than it gains by their legacies; so that, even in the most selfish view of the matter, it can hardly be necessary to foster the vanity of collectors by embellishing their bookcases.

Mr. B. H. De Triqueti has addressed a letter to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, on a subject on which the former gentleman is well able to speak,—the management of museums. His remarks have reference to our own,—so magnificent in contents, so unsatisfactory in the administration of them,—and they take this form and bearing. Recent as is the creation of our museums, they already contain treasures, to obtain which great sacrifices have been made, and which only require an intelligent system of direction, in order to become widely available. With respect to what may be effected by energy, Mr. De Triqueti refers to the labours of fifteen years on the part of the Director of the National Gallery. Our Museum treasures have not been collected for the mere glory of possession, but for the purpose of nationally educating; and yet, as at the British Museum, we pile up wealth on wealth, all varied, and have no space amid the confusion for as various students and instructors. While we unite, as in this case, half-a-dozen museums under one roof, we scatter our pictures among several dwellings. All is disorder, and without order no institution can flourish; but as our disorder has been the result, not of intention, but of accident, there is a remedy for the increasing evil. The institution of Trustees,—honest possessors of wealth which they often did not comprehend or were not allowed the facilities to render profitable to those for whom they held it in trust,—Mr. De Triqueti looks upon as an obsolete and incapable institution, which can do nothing for itself, and as little for others. Sometimes this effete institution jealously denies the usefulness of better managed establishments, and would suppress Kensington Museum on account of its being too vivacious a rival of older foundations. This reasoning reminds the writer, of Molière's Doctor, who recommended a patient to pluck out one eye in order that he might see all the clearer with the other. What has just been accomplished at Kensington under a wise and firm and active management, gives Mr. De Triqueti hopes of like results being effected throughout the king-

dom, by the addition of a Minister or Secretary of the Fine Arts to the administration. Such an official, suitably supported, would, he conceives, be a sure means of general amelioration: miserable and inevitable rivalries would cease; the efforts of the new minister would direct public attention to the Arts, and would encourage education; we should then have many, in place of a few contributors, to our museums generally, and, while few place-holders would be disturbed, every one would know his proper post and its responsibilities under an enlightened official chief, who alone can marshal into order, beauty, and efficiency "the confusion worse confounded," which the writer sees now prevailing, as the consequence of a course of things which can thus, in his view of them, be easily turned to good.

An able and honest writer has received his well-earned reward. The French Academy has unanimously conferred the triennial prize, founded by M. Halphen, on M. Émile de Bonnechose, for his 'History of England.' The impartiality, historical importance, and moral tendency of the work were the grounds on which the prize was awarded.

An interesting Collection of national French songs ('Chansons populaires des Provinces de France') has just appeared in Paris, edited by MM. Weekherlin and De Champfleury. As the French are by no means so rich in the collections of these national treasures as the Germans and the English, credit is due to the editors. Herr Weekherlin, an Alsatian, has arranged the melodies for the piano. A German source is traceable in the songs of Lorraine and Alsace, where Hebel is still in the mouths of the people. The purely French national songs are worthy of attention; fewer of them are known. The songs of Brittany and Languedoc especially are very peculiar.

BRITISH INSTITUTION, Pall Mall.—The GALLERY, with a Collection of PICTURES by ANCIENT MASTERS and deceased BRITISH ARTISTS, is OPEN daily from Ten to Six. Admission 1s. Catalogue 6d. GEORGE NICOL, Secretary.

Will Close this day.

THE NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.—The TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of this Society is NOW OPEN, at their Gallery, 53, Pall Mall, near St. James's Palace.—Admission, 1s.; Catalogue, 6d. Season JAMES FARHEY, Secretary.

Mr. HOLMAN HUNTS Picture of 'The FINDING of the SAVIOUR in the TEMPLE,' commenced in Jerusalem in July, 1854, is NOW ON VIEW at the GERMAN GALLERY, 168, New Bond Street, from Nine till Five.—Admission, 1s.

Mrs. ROSA BONHEUR's Pictures of SCENES in SCOTLAND, SPAIN, and FRANCE, are NOW ON VIEW at the GERMAN GALLERY, 168, New Bond Street, from Nine till Six.—Admission, 1s.

FRENCH EXHIBITION, 169, Pall Mall.—The SEVENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of Pictures, the contributions of Artists of the French and Flemish Schools, including Henriette Browne's Great Picture of 'The Sisters of Mercy,' is NOW OPEN.—Admission, 1s.; Catalogue, 6d. Open from Nine till Six daily.

WASHINGTON FRIEND'S GRAND MUSICAL and PICTORIAL ENTERTAINMENT entitled TWO HOURS in CANADA and the UNITED STATES, with his Songs, Anecdotes, and Melodies, daily at Three and Eight o'clock, Stalls, 3d; Boxes, 6d; Gallery, 1s. Secretary, W. H. EDWARDS, St. James's Hall, Piccadilly.

ROYAL COLOSSUM.—Open Daily, from Twelve to Half-past Four, and from Seven to Half-past Ten.—Admission, One Shilling; Children under Ten Years and Schools Sixpence.—A NEW and ORIGINAL HUMOROUS ENTERTAINMENT by MR. FOX-THE-EMPEROR, 'Out for a Day,' with numerous Songs and changes of Character; BEAUTIFUL and EXQUISITE DIVORING VIEWS, with VOCAL and other ILLUSTRATIONS, by MR. HEWSON—WONDERS of MODERN MAGIC, by Mr. J. TAYLOR—GRAND DIORAMAS of PARIS, LISBON, and LONDON—Swiss Cottages and Mountain Torrents, Conservatories and Stalactites, &c. &c. DR. BACHHOFFNER, F.C.S., Sole Lessee and Manager.

SCIENCE

INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL CONGRESS.

THIS important Meeting of British and foreign professional and scientific men, of whose proceedings we furnished a preliminary account last week, was only brought to a close late on Saturday evening.

The debates, statistical forms, and printed papers and reports connected with the Congress are so voluminous, range over so wide an area, and are, for the most part, so uninviting to the general reader, that it is somewhat difficult to present an abstract which shall convey an adequate idea of the important results arrived at. The several Sections sat day by day in their committee-rooms, only breaking up to adjourn and report their labours to the General Meeting for confirmation. Taking the Sections in their numerical order, we proceed to furnish a digest of their labours.

In the Section of Judicial Statistics Mr. EDWIN JAMES presented a paper, on Thursday, 'On the Comparative Liability of Males and Females to Various Kinds of Crime.'

Resolutions of great length respecting the Statistics of Courts of Justice, touching the numbers of criminals, nature of offences, sex and age, trade, or condition of the alleged offenders, and the supposed motives which led to the commission of the crime, were adopted by the Section and approved by the General Body. These Resolutions met every possible or probable contingency in connexion, not only with the Statistics of Courts of Justice, and of Crimes and Criminals, but also those of Prisons, Inquests, Reformatory Institutions and Schools! Referring to the practical utility of these statements, it was considered the most expedient course for each nation to make its judicial statistics as perfect as possible, according to its own system of rights, wrongs, and remedies, of crimes and offences, penal inflictions, and reformatory treatment; leaving to every statistician the task of comparing the statistics of one nation with another, or with all others, for the purpose of enabling himself to draw conclusions therefrom. It was also thought desirable that the British Government should appoint a Commission to examine and collate the different systems for collecting judicial statistics which prevail in this and foreign countries, and to report upon the following matters: viz.—1. What is the best method of recording judicial proceedings, with the view of supplying statistical information on legal subjects? 2. What is the best method of tabulating such information? 3. What additional staff of officers, if any, will it be necessary to appoint in order to ensure the preparation of comprehensive, scientific, and accurate returns?

A Report, presented to the Section by Dr. BAUMHAUER, 'Aperçu Comparatif des Législations Pénales de la Belgique, de la France, des Pays-Bas, et de la Saxe-Royale,' was ordered to be printed in the Proceedings of the Congress.

Mr. H. WILLIAMS read a paper, 'On the Statistics of the Sub-divisions, Transfers, and Burthens of Real Property,' when different Delegates explained the mode of land registration in their respective countries.

Resolutions were adopted to this effect,—that it is desirable that every State should possess an accurate General Map of its land on an approved scale, and kept up as closely as possible to the time of publication of its several parts. That it is desirable to obtain international statistics in respect of the transfer of land in different countries, and of the laws affecting the same.

Baron CZERNIG presented a Report by M. HYE, a member of the Commission appointed by the Vienna Congress to inquire into the different systems of legislation as affecting civil and criminal statistics.

Lord BROUHAM, in bringing up the resolutions adopted on Judicial Statistics, entered fully into the importance of the subject, and pointed out what he had done or endeavoured to effect for this object when in and out of office; especially by the establishment of the Central Criminal Court, the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, and a Bankruptcy Court, with a Judge and an Assistant-Judge, instead of a large number of Bankruptcy Commissioners, who, being all engaged at the bar, gave only such portion of their time as they could spare to the public duty. He alluded with regret to the dropping, during the present session, of the Bankruptcy Bill brought in by the Attorney General. The Admiralty Court was one which had worked well, and was a model of a court of appeal. The establishment of County Courts, which he had succeeded in introducing when out of office, although defeated by a bare majority of one in the House of Lords, had worked well in bringing home cheap justice to every man's door, though they were yet capable of much extension and improvement. But without Judicial Statistics how could we arrive at any correct knowledge of the working of any of these or the improvements required? Without such statistics there could be no inductive science.

In the Section discussing Sanitary Statistics,

most of the proposals in Dr. SUTHERLAND's paper, and in Dr. FARN'S Plan for Determining the Sanitary Condition of the Population of all Civilized States were adopted. It is believed that by the carrying out of these plans the sanitary condition of each part of the population may become known; and measures, discovered to be efficacious in one country, applied in all others. So the health of the human race will be improved, and each nation will get its full share of the benefit.

Papers were read by Mrs. BAINES, 'On the Statistics of Wet-Nursing,'—by DR. JARVIS, of the United States, 'On a Uniform System of Reports in Lunatic Asylums,'—and by DR. MILROY, 'On the Simultaneous Observation and Recording of Epidemics all over the Globe.'—Sanitary Maps regarding the cholera in Prussia were laid before the Section by DR. NEUMANN.—A discussion followed on the subject of Model Cottages and Dwellings, and the necessity of having correct information regarding them.—PROF. SIMONDE introduced the subject of 'Epidétiologie,' with the view of collecting details regarding their occurrence.—A communication from Sir D. BREWSTER, 'On the Statistics of Colour Blindness,' was read.

THE CHAIRMAN read a letter, addressed to him by Miss Nightingale, in which it was suggested, "That it would be of great importance, at the next Congress, if each Delegate would report any marked examples of diminution of mortality and disease, together with the saving of cost consequent on the carrying out of sanitary improvements in towns, in dwellings of the labouring classes, in schools, in hospitals, and in armies. As, for example, it is stated to be a fact demonstrated by statistics, that in improved dwellings the mortality has fallen, in certain cases, from 25 and 24 to 14 per 1,000; and that in 'common lodging-houses,' which have been hotbeds of epidemics, such diseases have almost disappeared as heads of statistics, through the adoption of sanitary measures. In the British army large bodies of men, living under certain improved sanitary conditions, have presented a death-rate about one-third only of what the army has suffered in past years. Again, it is stated that in our colonial schools for aborigines, we have in many instances exposed the children to the risk of scrofula and consumption, while Christianizing and civilizing them. Might not this be avoided by sanitary arrangements? It is stated of some industrial and half-time schools for orphans and destitute children, that whereas formerly two-thirds of the pupils became sacrifices to vice and crime, the failures on account of misconduct among the pupils have been reduced to less than two per cent. Might it not be well to consider whether these statistical results do not exemplify what may be done by application of like means? Miss Nightingale cited, in support of her suggestions, the words of M. Guizot:—'Valuable reports, full of facts and sound views, drawn up by committees, inspectors, rectors, and prefects, remain unknown to the public. The Government ought to charge itself with the knowledge of and the expansion of all good systems, with the encouragement of all favouring efforts, and with attempts to improve them, according to our present habits and institutions. One channel alone embraces sufficient action and power to secure this salutary influence; that channel is the Press.' And if, as it is the cost which frightens communities from executing the works necessary to carry out sanitary improvements, it could be shown that the cost of crime, disease, and excess of mortality is actually greater, it would remove one of the most legitimate objections in the minds of Governments and nations against such measures."

In Industrial Statistics CAPT. GALTON, R.E., late Secretary of the Railway Department of the Board of Trade, read a paper, on Friday, 'On the Statistics of Railways in Great Britain and other Countries,' submitting propositions, which were adopted:—'declaring it important to the industrial interests of every country, that uniform statistics of the cost of constructing and working railways, and returns of the traffic upon the railways should be collected.'

In addition to the other resolutions on Agriculture agreed to, it was resolved,—"That a return of

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the live stock should be obtained not less frequently than once in every five years, and if possible, every year; especial care to be taken to avoid exciting the prejudices or apprehensions of cultivators by unnecessary inquiries."

Sir RODERICK MURCHISON, in bringing up the Report of this Section, which embraced Agriculture, Mining, and Railways, for adoption to the General Meeting, gave a summary of the proceedings, and pointed out the benefits that had resulted from the Geological Survey and Museum of Economic Geology in Jermyn Street. Until Mr. Hunt took up the investigation, the mineral statistics of the kingdom were little known. His inquiries had led to the information that we now raised 65,000,000 tons of coal a year. Much discussion had arisen lately as to the probable duration of our coal-fields at the present rate of consumption; and although many statements had been put forth, he considered there were no sufficient data by which any correct estimate could be arrived at.

In the Section of Commercial Statistics it was resolved,—That the statistics of the progress of the Sydney Branch of the Royal Mint (especially if the sovereign coined there be declared a legal tender throughout Her Majesty's dominions) being of great interest, the Government of New South Wales are therefore requested to furnish continuous annual statements, comprising the cost of coining; amount of gold passing through the Mint in bars and coin; and amount coined into sovereigns and half-sovereigns.

A note 'On the Gold Production of Australia, up to the End of the Year 1859,' was also submitted by the Australian Delegates,—which states that a very large portion of Australia Proper and of Tasmania and New Zealand is auriferous.

The officially recorded export of gold from New South Wales is inaccurate, owing to the indiscriminate addition for several years of large receipts of gold from Victoria to that which was produced in New South Wales. The escorts and posts conveyed in all, from 1851 to 1859 inclusive, 1,570,047 ounces, exclusive of 80,296 ounces conveyed from the Ovens gold-fields in Victoria, and therefore included in the estimate for that colony,—314,009 ounces, brought down by other means, will make a total of 1,884,056 ounces. At 77s. per ounce, 7,253,616L is the value of the total amount raised in New South Wales from the first discovery in 1851 to the end of the year 1859. But this is small compared with the corrected returns of the total yield of gold from Victoria to the end of 1859. This yield exceeds 21,000,000 ounces, of the value of nearly 94,000,000L sterling. South Australia, in the last eight years, averages a produce of the value of only 160,000L annually. Tasmania only 8,000L. New Zealand, since 1857, has exported 35,000 ounces, of the value of 140,000L. The value of the total quantity raised up to the end of 1859, was, in New South Wales, 7,253,616L; in Victoria, 93,810,212L; in South Australia, 160,000L; in Tasmania, 8,000L; in New Zealand, 140,000L; total, 101,371,828L.

Various foreign gentlemen were requested to promote the preparation of Reports on the progress of Banks, Trust and Loan Companies, and Credit Companies in their several countries,—and the Rev. Mr. ROGERS and Mr. NEWMARCH, similar Reports for the United Kingdom and British India.

The Sub-Committee appointed to consider definitely the programme upon the Statistics of Banks submitted their Report:—After consideration, it was agreed that, it would not be possible to include "Credit and Discount Companies" in the present scheme, but that it might be desirable to refer this part of the question to the next International Congress. That, as regards Banks, it is desirable that, at least at four dates in each year, returns should be obtained, arranged, as a general rule, in a tabular form, comprising detailed information as to the capital, shareholders or partners, liabilities and assets, places of business, profit and loss, dividend and rates of interest, and discount.

At the General Meeting on Saturday, Mr. HODGE moved an amendment as to the rate of interest being only returned for quarterly periods, proposing that it should embrace all the changes

in the rates of interest and discount made since the last return. The alteration was opposed, but it was ultimately carried by the Meeting.

From the Report on the Australian Colonies submitted by the Delegates, we learn that the population of colonists amounted at the end of 1858 to upwards of 1,100,000. Of these the largest portion was in Victoria, which had 504,000. The deficiency of female population, which was gradually disappearing prior to the gold discovery, has been again increased by that event. In Victoria there are still only sixty females to a hundred of the other sex. The aborigines everywhere exhibit the result of a rapid decrease before European colonization. This seems more conspicuous with the Australian than with the New Zealander. The South Australian census of 1855 gave the aborigines of the settled districts as 3,540, and this scanty number, as stated in official despatches, is thought to have been since reduced by more than one-half: in Victoria, in 1857, there were 1768. The Protector of the Aborigines of that colony estimated their numbers about twelve years previously at 5,000. An estimate of the number of the New Zealand aborigines was made by the Native Protector in 1844, in which it was stated to be 109,550. A more careful census in 1857 gave their number at 56,049, of whom 31,667 were males, and 24,303 females. Upon other and less doubtful data, such as the paucity of children, it appears certain that the race is rapidly decaying. The Northern Island, by its genial climate the most attractive to savage life, contained much the greater part of this people, no less, indeed, than 53,056, leaving the small remainder scattered over the cooler regions of the Middle and Southern Islands and the Chatham group. The Tasmanian aboriginal is on the eve of total extinction. He exhibits distinctive features alike from the Australian and New Zealander. Fourteen only survive out of 5,000, the estimated numbers 57 years ago, on the first occupation by our countrymen. The improvements that are being effected in the larger towns must sensibly diminish the high ratio heretofore observable of urban mortality. Sydney and Melbourne are both now well supplied with good water, and in the former city an extensive system of underground drainage is far advanced towards completion. Infant mortality has long been unusually large in Melbourne. In South Australia, for 1858, the mortality under ten years of age amounted to 69-28 per cent. of the total of registered deaths. An established feature seems to be the greater mortality in the warm as compared with the cool seasons of the year. The lunatic asylums show prominent statistics in the two older Colonies. We must doubtless attribute the large number of insane in New South Wales and Tasmania to the presence of the last elements of the convict system. In the former it is 1 in 518; in the latter the still higher ratio of 1 in 482; while in England it is about 1 in 700. The habits of criminal life have sent many either to premature graves or to the asylum. The proportion in Victoria for 1858 is only 1 in 1,000, which contradicts the common opinion that the excitements of a gold-mining life, and the great consumption of ardent spirits in a climate unfavourable to such indulgence, contribute in unusual degree to insanity. The ratio for 1857 was still smaller than for 1858; but the cause is explained with reference to improved arrangements for transmitting lunatics from the country prisons to the asylum near Melbourne; and possibly to some slight extent the results of 1858 may still be similarly affected. The South Australian asylum presents only 39 subjects for 1857, and 40 for 1858, with a population of from 110,000 to 118,000 for these years. The ratio of crime is very considerable in all these colonies. The remains of the transportation system on the one hand, and, on the other, the great indulgence in alcoholic drinks, stimulated by a variable and rather warm climate, and generally abundant wages and means, may account for this unsatisfactory circumstance. To no small extent, also, must it be associated with the gold-fields, which in Victoria are the great focus of crime. But the ratio has sensibly diminished since the earlier years of gold mining.

Crimes of remarkable atrocity are committed mostly by the old British convicts, the remnants of the transportation system. The civil legislation presents some features of a specially colonial and Australian character. The measure entitled 'A Preferable Lien on Wool, and Mortgage on Live Stock Act' was enacted by New South Wales about sixteen years since, and adopted by Victoria and South Australia. Attention is called to it as being contrary to the recognized principles of English law, which forbid a mortgage, without transfer of possession, of movable property, and as having been, in consequence, disallowed by the Home Government. It was, however, successively re-enacted in the colony for short periods, and continues on the statute-book of several of the colonies. The measure has been beneficial, judging by the extent to which it has been used in the pastoral colonies that have introduced it. In Victoria, during 1859, the amount involved under this Act was so large as 1,196,571L, while the amount under mortgage upon real property was 2,093,609L. In New South Wales, for the previous year, the sums are respectively 1,102,000L and 705,000L, showing still more significance. The Gold Act of South Australia was an instance of exceptional procedure under the emergency of these times. The exodus of the labouring classes from that colony for Victoria, in 1852, brought on a panic, much enhanced by the diminution of specie, as the emigrating strong realized and carried off their means. The object of the Act was to make uncouned gold, assayed to a certain standard, a legal tender in South Australia, at a value slightly in excess of the then market-price in Victoria. The price thus fixed,—71s. per ounce,—was below that of the intrinsic value, but it was also above the price of the market in Victoria, which the circumstances at the time had established. The object was attended with entire success, and many distressing circumstances that must have occurred from the further course of the crisis were prevented. The question of simplifying law with regard to the tenure of landed property, which has been so often debated in Britain, has received its first practical solution in South Australia, where an extensive agricultural and landowning interest have already appreciated the important change. Mr. Torrens, in 1858, carried through the legislature his 'Act to simplify the Laws relating to the Transfer and Encumbrance of Freehold and other Interests in Land.' The provisions of it are similar to, and anticipated, the recommendations of the Commissioners on Registration of Title, contained in a Report to Parliament dated in May, 1857, as to the transfer, leasing, mortgage, encumbrance, and settlement of real estate; and the Act is similar to that of Sir Hugh Cairns's Bill of 1859. The colonial Act, however, differs in some points; for example, in this, that a good holding title, undisputed after extensive public notice, confirms the possessor against any future ejection, leaving him subject only to the payment of compensation. The Act already promises favourably; and Victoria is discussing the adoption of its provisions. By its aid expenses are reduced to one-tenth, and proceedings are so simplified and time so saved, that parties can, unaided, transact their own business in real estate, and can generally complete a transaction within an hour. All the colonial territories, with one exception, have been declared Crown property, to the extinction of all native title. They are, therefore, known as Crown lands or waste lands, in contradistinction to the alienated territory which has been granted or sold to the colonists, and which still bears but a small proportion to the remaining Crown domain. The exception is that of the northern island of New Zealand, where the British Government have recognized the native title to the territory, with the proviso, however, that the tribes can sell only to the Government. This restriction and the intricacies of native ownership have occasioned many differences, and are more or less the cause of the present outbreak at Taranaki. All lands intended for sale in the Colonies, exclusive of New Zealand, are disposed of by public auction, or at least they must, in the first instance, pass that

ordeal; and they are not sold for less than 20s. per acre, excepting in the case of Tasmania, where, by a recent act, the pastoral lands may be sold for 10s. per acre. In New Zealand the land is disposed of upon terms which are different in each province, varying from 5s. to 40s. per acre. There is a complete system of registration of titles in each of these colonies. Education occupies a large measure of the attention of the colonial governments, and both systems,—the denominational and the national,—receive State support. Various endeavours have been made to introduce one general system, but hitherto without success. To the Universities of Sydney and Melbourne the Imperial Government has awarded the distinction of ranking their degrees upon an equality with those of similar home institutions. The scholarships recently established by Tasmania exhibit another feature in intellectual progress. The public library at Melbourne is an institution upon a large scale, and, by giving the utmost facility to visitors, has obtained marked success.

In the Fifth Section, devoted to the consideration of the Census and Naval and Military Statistics, in reply to objections that might be urged against recording statistical details respecting armaments and munitions of war, &c., it was urged by Mr. W. B. HODGE, that if the objects of the Congress be to ameliorate the physical and moral condition of man, and to render his industry more productive by assisting to alleviate the burdens that encumber and to remove the obstacles that impede it, what better service can be performed for mankind than to promulgate the information by which they can alone appreciate the extent of the sacrifices entailed upon them by the armaments in question—information most likely to lead to the inquiry, how far those sacrifices are essential, and how far they may safely be diminished by the cultivation of mutual goodwill?

The subject of Military and Naval Statistics was fully gone into on Friday. Sir R. BROMLEY showed that political objections have had just weight in withholding statistical information with regard to our army and navy; other objections of less importance have also been taken to the publication of details, such as conveying to merchants and others who are looking to be contractors to the Government, the knowledge of the state of the stock on hand; but most of these objections would vanish were it arranged that the details should not be published until some considerable time had elapsed after the statistics had been made up. If some general forms of statistics could be agreed upon with reference to the personnel and material of the army and navy, much labour and expense would be saved; as the special returns and statistics, now constantly being called for, would be superseded. The propositions and forms were agreed to, and recommended by the general body.

Dr. BRYSON, of the Admiralty, then submitted his propositions 'On Vital Statistics connected with the Navy.' It was shown by Dr. Bryson how necessary it was to be careful in drawing deductions from incorrect or unexplained data. Thus, the average death-rate from consumption on the Island of Madeira for the last forty years, whether with reference to the entire population or to foreigners only, would not yield any true or useful result. In the army and navy, many deaths take place in this country which are referable to fever and dysentery contracted on the coast of China; consequently, in attempting to show by statistical tables the rate of mortality here, these deaths ought to be excluded from the mortuary tables, and transferred to tables drawn up for the region or locality where the disease was contracted.

The propositions of Dr. SUTHERLAND for a Uniform System of Military Sanitary Statistics were also adopted.

In the Section on Statistical Methods, &c., on Thursday, Mr. S. BROWN read a paper 'On the Units of Money, Weights, and Measures,' which gave rise to a discussion, in which Sir J. BOWRING and Sir C. PASLEY opposed the introduction of the metrical system in any form, and the former proposed a counter-resolution in favour of decimalizing the pound sterling. The following propositions were carried:—"That it be recommended to the Congress that, in countries not using the metrical system,

the column containing the reduction of all weights, measures, and values to the terms of the metrical system,—according to the resolution of the first International Statistical Congress,—be added to all statistical tables which it shall be decided to publish as international tables. That the Government Delegates from all countries in which the metrical system is not in use should be requested to urge upon their respective Governments the great advantages attending the adoption of the metrical system in weights and measures; and that all changes hereafter made should have in view to bring this system into general use. That each Government should be requested to institute an inquiry into the existing weights and measures, whether local, customary, or established by law, so that comparative tables may be formed by reducing them all to the terms of the metrical system. That an International Commission be nominated by the Congress, to whom the results of these inquiries may be submitted for the purpose of preparing a Report for the next Congress on the actual systems in use, and on the best means of overcoming the obstacles that may exist in any country to the establishment of the metrical system in weights and measures."

A General Meeting of the International Decimal Association, at which Lord EBRINGTON presided, was held in the evening. The following resolutions were unanimously adopted by the Section:—"The simplicity, convenience, and efficiency of the decimal system of money and accounts, recommend it for general adoption. The Section recommend the adoption, as far as possible, of a common degree of fineness in gold and silver coins. The Section also recommend that the Government Delegates from all countries in which a decimal system of coinage has been adopted be requested to collect all facts showing whether any or what inconveniences have resulted from such changes, and how such inconveniences, if found to have existed, have been met and remedied. That an International Committee be nominated by the Congress, to whom the results of these inquiries may be submitted for the purpose of preparing a Report for the next Congress on the actual systems in use, and on the best means of overcoming the obstacles that may exist in any country to the establishment of the proposed changes."

At the General Meeting, on Thursday, official reports from Jamaica and Barbadoes, Mauritius, the Ionian Isles, and India, were submitted by various Delegates; also a report for England, by Dr. FARR and Mr. R. VALPY.

Dr. GUY brought up to the General Meeting the report from the Sixth Section, on the subject of Statistical Signs and Methods. The propositions, which were noticed in our impression of last week, were adopted by the Meeting.

M. LEGOUT (France), submitted the Report from the Fifth Section 'On the Census and on the Occupations of the People.'

The propositions submitted by Dr. BALFOUR 'On Military Vital Statistics' were adopted. It was also agreed, that it is desirable to have returns showing the number of horses borne on the establishment of the army, and various other details respecting cost, death, disease, &c.

Dr. BOUDIN (France) stated that, by a proper ventilation of French hospitals, a reduction of more than 25 per cent. in the mortality had taken place. Dr. Boudin pointed out that of the mortality in horses in the French army, at least 50 per cent. arose from glanders; and instanced many cases in which the human subject had become infected with the disease, which could be communicated alike by the dead animal as by the living.

Dr. FARR proposed to restore the portion of the programme which included "persons labouring under serious sickness or permanent infirmity" in the subjects of inquiry at the census, as it was important to obtain returns of goitre or rickets and other casual diseases. The proposition was agreed to.

On the proposition of Dr. GUY, the following resolution was adopted:—That, with a view to economize the time and abridge the labour of those who have to consult statistical documents, it be recommended to all Government departments and statistical bureaux issuing Annual

Reports, that in each Annual Report, the great leading facts relating to the kingdom, the metropolis, and the principal divisions of the kingdom, shall be presented at one view for all previous years and for the year of the Report, together with the enumerated or estimated population of the kingdom, metropolis, and principal divisions of the kingdom; or that the facts in question be expressed as fractions or per centages of the population.

M. SCHLAGINTWEIT submitted to the Meeting some measurements of craniums and bones of different Asiatic races and aboriginal tribes, made during his travels in the East, on behalf of the East India Company.

Major-General PASLEY brought up suggestions intended to promote correspondence between meteorological observers. The chief point up was the variety of scales on the thermometer. Excellent as the centesimal division is theoretically, and deservedly cherished on the continent of Europe, America, India, and Australia do not use it on their instruments (excepting those of a very few scientific men, widely separated). Fahrenheit's scale is so popular that neither Réaumur nor even the Centigrade, can easily displace it in general estimation; but tables for their conversion are common, and this first cause of discord, namely, variety of scales (including all those for barometers), may be now almost irreconcileable. Double scales on one instrument add to the cost, and are liable to cause occasional errors in reading; but if an international scale could be agreed upon, such a graduation might be added to all instruments, in addition to each respective scale. It was proposed to fix the zero point at 100, and the boiling point at 200. This would obviate any subtraction, and very much simplify calculations and reductions. No definite action was taken in this matter.

The Right Hon. W. F. COPPER suggested that Berlin should be selected as the place of meeting for the next Congress. Dr. ENGEL, the official Delegate for that country, stated that he had no instructions to invite the meet there, yet, should the capital be fixed upon as the next place of meeting, in their power to promote the objects and comfort of the Congress.

The usual votes to Presidents, officers, and reporters of Sections, to the Delegates and others, were passed, and the Congress was dissolved at 9 o'clock on Saturday night.

SOCIETIES.

HORTICULTURAL.—An Ordinary Meeting of the Society, for the election of Fellows and balloting for plants, was held on Tuesday, July 24, at the Museum of Science and Art, South Kensington, by permission of the Lord President of the Privy Council, C. Wentworth Dilke, Esq., V.P., in the chair, when the following ladies and gentlemen were elected Fellows:—Hon. Mary Trefusis, Hon. Adela Trefusis, Shirley Hibberd, J. M. Venning, Hon. Mary C. Abercromby, Lady Macdonald, Mrs. Loveden, Miss Cox, and Sir W. C. James. A ballot for various plants, the third and last for the season, then took place.

ZOOLOGICAL.—June 26.—E. W. H. Holdsworth, Esq., in the chair.—Mr. W. K. Parker communicated an abstract of his notes on the osteology of *Balaeniceps rex*, as founded upon a careful examination of a specimen lately living in the Society's Gardens.—Mr. W. H. Flower read a note on the abnormal structure of the gizzard of the Nicobar Pigeon (*Columba Nicobarica*), comparing its formation with that of the same organ in other birds.—A paper was read, by Dr. Bennett, 'On the Habits of the Brown Coati-mondi (*Nasua fuscus*)'. Dr. G. Hartlaub, of Bremen, read a notice of a new bird allied to the Cariamae lately discovered by Prof. Burmeister in South America, for which he proposed the name *Dicholophus Burmeisteri*.—Mr. Alfred Newton exhibited some hybrid Ducks, and read some general observations on hybridism among the Anatidae, giving particulars of a case in which two hybrids between the Pintail (*Dafila acuta*) and domestic Duck had produced offspring.

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Mr. Newton also offered some remarks on the *Antechinus erythropus* of Linnaeus, and endeavoured to show that that name was applicable strictly to the *Antechinus minutus* of Naumann.—The Secretary exhibited a drawing of the Rock Kangaroo living in the Society's Menagerie, and believed to be identical with Dr. Gray's *Petrogale xanthopus*.—Mr. Leader exhibited three examples of Buffon's Skua, lately shot in Ireland, and some remarkably large heads and antlers of the Wapiti Stag.

FINE ARTS

A CITY EXHIBITION OF DECORATIVE ART.

One of the oldest of the City guilds, or companies, the Painters', otherwise Painter-Stainers' Company, which dates from the early part of the fourteenth century,—has just closed an Exhibition of works of Decorative Art, which we hope is only the first of a successful series. The day has gone by when any revival of guild restrictions or apprenticeship regulations would be tolerated or endured,

—certainly when enforced by so humble an authority as an obscure dining and benevolent Association, in some narrow alley of the City. The only right permitted to ride upon the neck of commerce is the Imperial Government, and then only for the benefit of the community. If trade is not to be taxed the country ought to wish, the twelve City Companies, with their smaller companions, can hardly be blamed for it. They have sunk into the position of monumental antiquities; "crafts" they once governed, limited, and proscribed have broken from them, and now grow, in all sides, in wild luxuriance; and their ruling families have little left to rule except periodical quiet and class charities.

A guild or company like the Painters or Painter-Stainers is wise to recognize this fact,—to turn its back upon the past, to lock up its old charters, cease to mumble about what it was, and to cudgel the brains to discover what it really is and ought to be. The Painters' Hall, at number 1, Little Trinity Lane, Queenhithe, City, the "Royal Academy" of England. Its members boasted of Kneller and Sir Joshua Reynolds, but it has now sunk chiefly into an organization for dispensing funds for the benefit of house-painters and decorators who are lame or blind. These are the trades of *working-painting* which it now represents, and which its present Master, Mr. Sewell, and its Clerk, Mr. Tomlin, are endeavouring to inspire with some little artistic feeling and ambition, through the medium of prizes and a competitive exhibition. They have overcome the difficulty of getting a body of men to prepare specimens of their art for the chance of a small present reward, a little publicity, and a future benefit, that can hardly be stated or defined. This difficulty is great, even when dealing with wealthy or energetic manufacturers; it must be infinitely greater when dealing with humble working-men.

The design of the "Master," Mr. Sewell, is set forth in the following circular, addressed to the members of his trade:—"The powers of the various Guilds are not maintainable under their by-laws, and it must be acknowledged they have fallen into disuse, and operate in restraint of trade. I consider, however, by substituting emulation for coercion, that the Guilds (especially those where skilful handicraft is required) might yet maintain as bodies a firm and useful position in society; and my suggestion for effecting this, as relates to this Company, consists in inviting the workmen artisans, and artists connected with painting and decoration, to submit their works annually to public inspection,—their merits to be judged by competent persons. The public exhibition of such works to take place at the Company's ancient Hall."

The result of this appeal and the labour by which it was assisted has been that about 180 specimens were exhibited, by some 35 hands. These specimens included works of arabesque and medieval ecclesiastical decoration, writing, enamelling on deal, graining, and imitations of marble and inlaid work. Glass, paper, slate, canvas, and wood, were the materials on which the work was executed. The

judges were five in number—three belonging to the Company, and two to the general trade; and they awarded four prizes, each consisting of a certificate of merit, and the freedom of the Company. These rewards were slight, but they were sufficient to produce specimens in marbling and graining that could hardly be surpassed. The Company, though rich in funds for charitable objects, is poor for all purposes that may stimulate and improve the trade it represents.

There was one point on which we think the Catalogue of this Exhibition was unwise silent, and that was, the cost of the different specimens. In looking at the excellent imitations of marble, we wanted some guide as to their price per foot, that we might judge, in decorating a house, whether it would or would not be cheaper to use the real material, with its superior durability and genuineness. This is a question, we confess, that we should like to see cleared up, even when we give the prize-holders all the additional publicity in our power. These were:—

First-class decorations in arabesque, J. Simkin; first in marbling, J. McDonald; first in writing, James Edmitt; first in graining on wood, T. Kershaw. Mr. Kershaw might also have obtained prizes for marbling and decorative painting, but for the judges having decided that only one first-class certificate could be given to an "artist."

These workmen may always be found by a note addressed to the Clerk of the Company.

FINE-ART Gossip.—Mr. Marshall Wood's statue of "Daphne," executed in marble for the Countess (Frances) Waldegrave, and exhibited in the Royal Academy last year, has lately been set up in the so-called "Chapel" at Strawberry Hill. This chapel is a copy of one in Salisbury Cathedral, and was erected in the grounds at Strawberry Hill by the late Horace Walpole.

A large and fine picture by Sir W. Allan, R.A., and P.R.S.A., representing Nelson boarding the San Nicolas, has been presented to the Gallery at Greenwich Hospital by Mr. Herbert C. Blackburn of Orsett Terrace, Gloucester Gardens.

For some time past an interesting bowl, of bronze, has been exhibiting in the rooms of the Society of Antiquaries. This was found near Sir Percyval Dyke's park, at Lullingstone, Kent, together with skulls and fragments of pottery and iron, in clay, two or three feet below the surface, by "navvies," who broke off some bronze ornaments that had been attached to it;—these, which represent birds, stags, fish, roundels, and interlaced work—a common Celtic ornament—have been replaced. The object is supposed to be a Gabbata, a vessel used in churches for an unknown purpose, but frequently mentioned in early inventories. It will be engraved in the *Archæologia*, accompanied by a paper from Mr. Ireland.

A Correspondent, with reference to the inquiries respecting a series of studies of heads for Da Vinci's "Last Supper" formerly in England, advertises to a series of similar studies which were purchased at the sale of the King of Holland's Collection in 1850 for the Collection at Weimar, for 8,000 florins. They were executed in red and black chalk, and named in the Catalogue Andrew, Matthew, James, Philip, and Nathaniel, Peter and Judas, John the Evangelist, Bartholomew and Thomas and Jude. The heads of Simon and Judas also occur in No. 74 of the Catalogue of Woodburn's Collection of Drawings, which he exhibited.

We stated in the last *Athenæum* that Mr. G. G. Scott had prepared a new design for the Foreign Office, in the Italian style of course, and now it is reported that Lord Palmerston had commissioned Mr. Garling to make a design in the same style, which was sent in three weeks since. If we are to have an Italian Foreign Office, then, undoubtedly, Mr. Garling has a just right to compete for it, because he gained the first prize in the War Office competition, in which Mr. Scott stood third only.

Mr. Talbot Bury proposes that the testimonial to Pugin should take the form of a biography of that architect, to be published by subscription. This idea has been repudiated by the promoters of the Art-scholarship scheme.

It has been resolved to erect a memorial to Sir Hugh Myddleton at Islington. This is to consist of a drinking fountain, surmounted by a statue of the bringer of water to London, and is to be placed on the site of the old watch-house now standing on the Green. At a public meeting held in Myddleton Hall, Islington, presided over by Sir Samuel Morton Peto, Bart., that gentleman offered to present the statue to the parish. The liberal offer was accepted with acclamation.

A circular was issued on the 29th of May last, stating that 100*l.* more was required to carry out Mr. Scott's plans for the restoration of Crowland Abbey. This is one of the most interesting reliques in the country, and the scandal would be enormous if, while we squander 1,200*l.* upon a shed for the preservation of the Wellington Funereal Car, the public will not find one-twelfth of that sum to completely rescue from ruin a building whose historical associations are great, in addition to its architectural beauty. Since the issue of this circular the front of the building has been shored up, but nothing further done.

The end of October next will witness an Art-Exhibition at Madrid.

The remains of a Roman theatre and temple, dedicated to Apollo, have recently been discovered at Pierrefonds, near Compiegne. These are said to be in the best style of Roman Art,—and the bas-reliefs admirable.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

The JULLIEN FESTIVAL will take place on TUESDAY NEXT, July 31, at the ROYAL SURREY GARDENS, for the BENEFIT of MADAME JULLIEN.

FRENCH PLAYS.—ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Positively SELL OUT.—NIGHTS.—MONDAY for the BENEFIT of PAUL DEVANT, on TUESDAY for the BENEFIT of the COMPANY OF THE FRENCH PLAYS.—Private Boxes from Two Guineas; Orchestra Stalls, 7*s.* 6*d.*; Balcony Stalls, 6*s.*; Pit, 5*s.*; Gallery, 1*s.* Commence at Eight o'clock. Box-Office open from Eleven to Five daily.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

The Eleven Sets of Mazurkas, composed for the Pianoforte, by Frederick Chopin, edited by J. W. Davison. (Boosey & Co.)—This is a very handsome publication. The price is cheap, the page is clear, the type is good, and the scale to our liking, since we have not yet become reconciled to the minikin form of printing such music as is intended not to be read in the hand, but to be played from at the desk. A careful Preface by Mr. Davison serves as overture to these *Mazurkas*, containing one or two slight mistakes on unimportant points of detail, but, so far as criticism and analysis go, competent and well reasoned out;—save (we submit) on one point. That which has happened to Handel and to Gluck has also befallen Chopin in his less degree. He is too exclusively rated as a composer, who was nothing if not lacrymose and melancholy;—whereas his talent had also a side of peculiar stateliness and grandeur, in which he was surpassed by none of his contemporaries, and approached by few among them. At least half-a-dozen of these identical *Mazurkas* are based on large nervous phrases;—and can only be rated as sad, on the theory that wherever there are real thought and poetry, there is almost always an undercurrent of feeling and emotion, be the occasion ever so festive. The line

I'm never merry when I hear sweet music,
has a universal truth in it. Chopin, however, put forth his command over what is vigorous, gorgeous, and brilliant, in other compositions more unmistakeably than in his *Mazurkas*. Turn, for instance, to his *Polonoise*, No. 1, Op. 40, in which the outlines and phrases are on the largest possible scale of grandeur, too large, indeed, for any pianist's hand to express in all its fullness,—claiming such resources of a rich and jubilant pageant-band, as M. Meyerbeer accumulates in his *Torch Dances*.—There is another *Polonoise*, Op. 53, to which the above description equally applies, though the music more obviously laid out for a piece of pianoforte exhibition. Many other examples, from his *Notturni*, *Ballads*, *Waltzes*, *Preludes*, could be cited. Even Chopin's playing, delicate though it was, and, of course, increasingly so as suffering and singular habits of life wore out his body, was not always the fragile and dreamy display, of which the public seems alone to have retained an impression. When he

was once at the pianoforte (he preferred sitting down to it after midnight), it was remarkable to observe with what untiring animation he would continue, exciting himself and strengthening as he went on, till the pale, half-dead face, and the form that had seemed convulsed with asthma but a few moments earlier, absolutely became transformed as by a spell of health and energy and cheerfulness.—On such occasions there was no getting Chopin to leave the piano. He would plead to stay and to play again, and after that just to play "one little thing more," though the "little thing," at somewhere about two A.M., might prove nothing less exhausting than his tremendous study in c sharp minor, after which nine out of ten pianists, at the beginning of a session, however Herculean in aspect as compared with Chopin, would have wiped their foreheads and thought their praise well earned—their evening's work well done. These things are merely thrown together, because it is evident from publications like this one that increased care and anxiety to know the truth are at last becoming happily the rule in England; and it is possibly only from the testimonies of different witnesses that the character of any real artist can be fully wrought out, or his place in the Pantheon be finally apportioned to him. Chopin suffered—who has not?—from false friends. The Jesuitical and self-laudatory notice of his exigence and her devotion by Madame Dudevant, will be quoted from time to time, simply because she yields the plausible and experienced pen of a writer of genius. Dr. Liszt does not stand in the category of the Jesuits, but his monograph—as trying to prove too much here, to go too deep there, to soar too high—written in unnatural French, has small value as regards Chopin; howbeit it attests the sincere admiration of the writer. Perhaps the above words may be considered for what they are worth, should the publishers and editor give out companion volumes of the Ballads, Notturni, Waltzes, Polonoises of Chopin.

THE ITALIAN OPERAS.—The last card of his season, we suppose, may be considered to have been played by Mr. Gye this day week, when Madame Miolan-Carvalho appeared as *Gilda*, in 'Rigoletto'—with the other parts cast as formerly. Better sung, and more delicately played, the music and the drama could not be than by this thoroughly accomplished artist. Her power as an actress of sentiment—so beautifully displayed in Gounod's 'Faust'—found some scope in the buffoon's outraged daughter. Her by-play was particularly good,—finished everywhere without disturbance,—always judiciously kept within the limits of her natural powers.—It was excellent, too, to hear how she worked out the points of Signor Verdi's music, without the least spasm or scream. This was her last appearance this year,—since she has left London to fulfil Continental engagements; but as her first English one, in a new style of characters, it was also the first evening of a new lease of popularity for her—which only spiteful Time can close.

During this week Madame Grisi's last performances of her repertory have been announced as in progress. She is about to make an operatic autumnal tour in the provinces, accompanied by Signor Mario and Madame Viardot. It would be well were Mr. Gye seriously to consider by whom she is to be replaced. Madame Caillag is not to be thought of as her successor. One-half of the success of 'Orfeo' was lost owing to her incompetence. For the sake of Gluck, we would gladly see public proof of this shown to London during the coming visit of Madame Viardot. 'Le Prophète' has been merely revived by its scenic splendour and the strength of the male cast. Madame Penco, we apprehend, will not replace Madame Grisi.—Mr. Lumley could not establish Mdlle. Parodi at *Her Majesty's Theatre*,—as little that more showy person of remarkable vocal promise, Mdlle. Cruvelli. No London audience will long endure second-rate persons thrust upon them save in second-rate occupation—least of all, a Covent Garden audience. There is ample time for all concerned to lay this counsel to heart ere 1861 sees the *Royal Italian Opera* re-opened.

Mr. E. Smith closes *Her Majesty's Theatre* to-night, after a "run" of 'Oberon,'—the success of which opera has been the great event of his year. The performance of Weber's fine and fantastic work has ripened much on repetition. The artists may generally be credited with having improved. For Madame Albini, however, no advance was possible; since from the first, her singing of the music written for *Fatima* was perfection. She has made no such sensation in London since her first Covent Garden season as this year in Weber's opera. Signor Mongini has made progress. M. Béart and Signor Everardi could with difficulty be replaced by any two artists of their class; both are rising in public appreciation. On the whole, Mr. E. Smith may fairly claim the credit of having fought his fight as well as it could have been fought under circumstances. He has promised his public a better orchestra and chorus for next spring's campaign.

PRINCESS'S.—On the close of Mr. Phelps's engagement, the manager has reasonably sought some startling novelty, and discovered it, as it would appear, in the Zouave artists who founded a theatre at Inkermann for the amusement of the allied armies. Their performances are curious, and skilful withal. Two of them who, as in the Elizabethan times, act female parts—by name Glatigny and Lucien—are wonderfully clever, and manage their *falsetto* voices with remarkable precision. The principal male character, the Zouave *Frédéric*, also is an unmistakably good actor. The titles of the pieces produced are 'Militaire et Pensionnaire' and 'La Corde Sensible'; the latter being interrupted by an actual attack of Russians in ambuscade, and concluding the entertainment with a display of the Zouaves' courage in their proper character as soldiers, though still in their histrionic costume. On the whole, the performance is truly interesting;—for these Zouaves are really good actors as well as good fighters.

DRURY LANE.—This theatre was opened on Wednesday evening for the benefit of the family of the late Mr. Robert B. Brough. The entertainments were of a miscellaneous character, including an address by Mr. G. A. Sala, and a prologue delivered by Mrs. E. Stirling, and written by Mr. Shirley Brooks for the occasion. 'The Enchanted Island' was the principal performance, in which Mrs. Stirling's daughter, Miss Fanny Stirling, made her first appearance, and certainly a favourable impression on the audience. Professional actors and amateurs united in the benevolent effort of the evening, the result of which appeared to be satisfactory.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—The preparations for the Norwich Festival seem complete. Since they have been recounted from week to week in the *Athenæum*, we need not recapitulate them. The paragraph published on Saturday last, has called out such a mass of communication on the subject of musical engagements, how and why made, (totally apart from the mistaken case to which attention was then called by statements published with Norwich authority), that we may return to the subject,—though obviously some juncture must be chosen when everything savouring of personalty can be avoided.

On the 19th ult. a Festival was held at Giessen in memory of Spohr, at which his Overtures to 'Jessonda' and 'Der Berggeist,' and his Symphony 'The Power of Sound,' were performed under the auspices of Herr Bott, one of the great violinist's pupils. Great violinist as Spohr was, he "comes out" smaller, as an artist, in his Memoirs, than so honest and indefatigable a citizen should have appeared on such an occasion. The humour of his strictures on Beethoven in Vienna has been already adverted to. We are not much at issue with Spohr in regard to Beethoven's later compositions; but there is something like ill-nature in all the smaller man's jottings down of the greater and more rugged man's peculiarities,—in the details of "Beethoven's shocking abruptness of manner,"—of his Johnsonian contortions when conducting,—of his extravagances as solo-player, conse-

quent partly on deafness. When Spohr hazards such an assertion as that Beethoven "troubled himself with no one's music save his own," we are tempted to turn down the leaf with a comment, "Not quite true, and very droll on Spohr's part." Surely, if such unsympathetic character ought to be awarded to any German master in music, it should be to the upright, pompous, respectable, self-contained *Kapellmeister* of Cassel, who knew very little and cared even less for his contemporaries than a critical writer of memoirs should do. We heard him inquire tranquilly as to the parentage of Beethoven's familiar *Pianoforte Andante* in 7, produced in his presence at a London party given in his honour. As to manners, rudeness has many forms. Spohr's rudeness was that of a respectable man, cold and not exaggerated; but a man as selfish in his way as Beethoven. To illustrate by an anecdote. For a reception made to honour him in the house of a great German musician resident here, three artist-ladies,—all singers of European reputation, and whose hours were worth so many gold pieces,—had conspired to prepare the *trio* (one of Spohr's happiest inspirations) from 'Zemire und Azor.' The leading voice had hardly begun to sing this, when, out of the small London room, and across the pianoforte, and through the three admiring gentlewomen, strode Spohr (and he was large, and bovine, and tall), calling to his wife, "Come, let us go; it is too hot here!"

Among the news of the last Paris week, arrive tidings which are not easy to understand. M. Delaporte (our late guest) has resigned his Presidency of the Commission of Choral Societies. Can nothing last among our neighbours?—Madame Van den Heuvel (Mdlle. Dupret that was) and Mdlle. Sax are about to make their first appearances at the *Grand Opéra* in 'Robert.'

A new musical work is now in performance at the Surrey Theatre. This is Mr. Tully's 'Garibaldi,'—the principal characters in which opera are sustained by Miss Rebecca Isaac and Mr. Parkinson.

With all its political anxieties and its Hyperborean weather, this year has not been poor in foreign musical Festivals. There has been a gathering of part-singers at Mulhausen. There is to be a Festival of the same kind,—the first of a series of Palatinate meetings,—at Kaiserslautern, to begin on the 26th of August.

MISCELLANEA

Public Parks.—A new Act, which has just received the Royal assent, and is now in force, provides for local improvements beneficial to the health and comfort of the people. The ratepayers of any parish maintaining its own poor, the population of which, according to the last account, exceeds five hundred persons, may purchase or lease lands, and accept gifts and grants of land, for the purpose of forming any public walk, exercise or playground, and levy rates for maintaining the same, and for the removal of any nuisances or obstructions to the free use or enjoyment thereof, and for improving any open walk or footpath, or placing convenient seats or shelters from rain, and for other purposes of a similar nature. The Act may be adopted in boroughs. After the adoption of the Act, a meeting of the ratepayers is to take place to make a separate rate, and such rate is to be agreed to by a majority of at least two-thirds in value of the ratepayers assembled. Previous to any such rate being imposed, a sum in amount not less than at least one-half of the estimated cost of such proposed improvements shall have been raised, given, or collected by private subscription or donation. The rate is not to exceed 6d. in the pound.

To CORRESPONDENTS.—C. Clark—H. J. H.—I. B.—F. G.—W. M. R.—I. H.—received.

. The Title-page and Index for our half-yearly volume are given with the present number, on a separate sheet, as a Supplement, gratis.

Erratum.—In the advertisement of sale of **NEWSPAPERS**, &c., at Glasgow, inserted July 14 (p. 43, col. 3), the line "The present proprietor would prefer to retain a share" had reference to another property. A corrected advertisement of the Glasgow property appears in this day's journal, p. 111.

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